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CONTENTS: Vol. LVI. No. 15 (Series No. 1,055).

	PAGE		PAGE
Association Affairs	636	New Books	620
Australasian Letter	614	New Companies and Com-	
Bankruptcies and Failures	632	pany News	633
British Pharmaceutical		Observations and Reflec-	
Conference	615	tions	625
Business Changes	615	Personalities	624
Chemical Society	616	Pharmaceutical Society of	
Colonial and Foreign News	614	Great Britain :—	
Coming Events	642	Edinburgh Pass-list	634
Correspondence	638	“ First ” Examination	634
Council Contest	620	Pharmaceutical Society of	
Deaths	618	Ireland	634
Deeds of Arrangement	632	Recent Wills	633
Editorial Comments :—		Royal Institution	637
Easter Education	626	Scientific Progress	629
National Thirsts	627	Scotch News	613
A Mysterious Letter	628	Society of Chemical In-	
Notes	628	dustry (Manchester)	617
English News	610	Trade Marks Applied For	622
French News	613	Trade Notes	615
Gazette	632	Trade Report	639
Irish News	612	War Notes	622
Legal Reports	630	Westminster Wisdom	617
Medical Gleanings	629		

POSTCARD COMPETITION.

PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL ELECTION

On this month. For full particulars see page 620.

OUR COLONIAL ISSUE.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of April 28 will be specially circulated to the drug-trade of the British Colonies, India, Egypt, China, and Japan. It will be a splendid number for advertising in. Again we have no room this week to say more about it, but the Publisher undertakes to answer fully all inquiries.

Summary.

THE VIMBOS LAW-SUIT has ended in the jury disagreeing (p. 630).

WE URGE THE NEED for educating M.P.'s during the Easter recess (p. 626).

THE CASES on which the law of conspiracy is based are laid down on p. 625.

THE ORIGIN of the bubonic plague in Australia has been traced to rats (pp. 614 and 629).

A PORTRAIT OF MR. D. H. OXEN, chemist, Newcastle-under-Lyme, is given on page 624.

PARLIAMENT has taken a holiday until April 26, the Companies Bill standing where it did (p. 617).

MR. ROBERT J. DOWNES, the ex-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, is dead (p. 620).

IN A PHARMACY ACT CASE in which laudanum was sold the penalties were paid into court (p. 631).

OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT sends us some particulars of the career of the late Dr. Beauregard (p. 613).

THE PATENT LAWS of this country sadly require revision, according to Mr. Ivan Levenstein (p. 617).

THE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL in various forms in different countries is the subject of a note on p. 627.

SOME ARMY DISPENSERS provide interesting letters telling of their experiences at the seat of war (p. 623).

SALINIGRIN is the name of a new glucoside which Dr. H. A. D. Jowett has discovered in black willow (p. 617).

THE VIEWS OF CANDIDATES for the Pharmaceutical Council, as far as we have received them up to Wednesday, are printed on p. 620.

A BIRMINGHAM ROUND-ROBIN to the Pharmaceutical Council, asking it to devote more attention to pharmacy, has been signed (p. 610).

PROFESSOR DEWAR delighted an immense audience at the Royal Institution by showing his latest discovery—solid hydrogen (p. 637).

THE ARRANGEMENTS for entertaining the members of the British Pharmaceutical Conference give promise of many happy events (p. 615).

THE SECOND AUCTIONS of quinine sulphate at Batavia are announced on p. 614. About 90,000 oz. of the local-made product will be offered.

MR. HENRY FRASER, pharmaceutical chemist, has concluded his medical curriculum at Aberdeen University. We give his portrait on p. 624.

QUININE is 2d. per oz. cheaper this week, cod-liver oil is weaker, camphor stronger, and opium looks firmer; but business, as a whole, is dull (p. 639).

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE CHEMISTS dined together at Hanley (p. 636). Bradford, Birkenhead and Grimsby chemists have also been making merry (p. 636).

A BIRMINGHAM CORRESPONDENT contributes entertaining items of news and some suggestions for the consideration of pharmaceutical politicians (p. 610).

THE BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS on the production and consumption of alcoholic beverages afford exact information as to what are the national drinks (p. 627).

THE ACCOMMODATION for teaching materia medica and therapeutics at Glasgow University is not all that it should be, according to Dr. Ralph Stockman (p. 613).

CURIOUS EXAMPLES of immiscibility of aqueous fluids were described by Mr. Newth to the Chemical Society; also a method for liquefying gases by self-cooling (p. 616).

THE SHAREHOLDERS of Rosbach Springs (Limited) have found it necessary to appoint a committee to examine accounts and other matters connected with the company (p. 633).

MR. RICHARD REYNOLDS, of Leeds, a Past-President of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, and one of the Pharmaceutical Society's most loyal supporters, died last week (p. 619).

MR. JUSTICE BUCKLEY decided last week that the Anglo-Continental Chemical-works (Limited) and Mr. Robert Reitmeyer had infringed the Monet patent for the production of toluene-sulpho-chloride in the manufacture of saccharin, and judgment was given against them (p. 630).

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Royal Institution.

The programme of the Friday evening meetings after Easter include discourses by Lord Kelvin (the dynamical theory), Professor T. E. Thorpe (pottery and plumbism), Professor J. A. Ewing (structure of metals), and Sir Henry Roscoe (Bunsen). Professor Dewar is also announced to give a course of four lectures on "A Century of Chemistry in the Royal Institution," on Thursday afternoons, April 26, May 3, 10, and 17.

Analysts' Affairs.

Mr. T. A. Pooley, analyst for Essex, states that he analysed 293 samples of foods and drugs last quarter, of which 20 were adulterated. In one case borax was supplied for arrowroot, probably in error. A sample of lime-water was entirely devoid of lime, and samples of British wines contained varying quantities of salicylic acid as a preservative.

At a meeting of the Eastbourne Town Council on April 4 the Corporation was asked whether some facilities could not be given to tradesmen dealing in articles that might be adulterated to have such things analysed at a nominal cost. It was explained that an analysis to protect them from prosecution at present cost from 2*l.* 2*s.* to 3*l.* 3*s.* The matter was referred to the Sanitary Committee for consideration.

At the meeting of Stowmarket Urban Council on April 6, the medical officer (Dr. C. W. Low) asked for a fee to be allowed him for water-analyses. He explained that analysing of water was no part of his duty, and in East Stow he was allowed 5*s.* for each analysis. A public analyst's fee for the same work would be two guineas. He anticipated there would be a good many of these analyses required in future, and, if he was to undertake the work, he would like a small fee to be fixed. No action was taken.

At a meeting of the Norfolk County Council on April 7, Mr. Francis Sutton, county analyst, presented his annual report, which showed that he had examined 115 samples, amongst them being vinegar, sweet spirit of nitre, paregoric, laudanum, and tincture of rhubarb; but, on analysis, only five were found to be adulterated, the extent of adulteration being 4½ per cent. Referring to the employment of a special collector, Mr. Sutton said he was of opinion that, if he collected samples personally, he would not be more successful in getting defective samples than previous collectors. That, he said, was the general experience.

Photographic Exhibition.

In connection with the Photographic Exhibition, to be held at the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W., from April 27 to May 5, we have received from the promoters an advance copy of the programme. Mr. T. C. Hepworth is to deliver lectures on x-ray photography, liquid air, the microscope, photography in warfare, telephotography, and colour-photography. Mr. R. C. Bayley is to lecture on the hand-camera, and Mr. C. M. Hepworth will give cinematograph displays each day.

Notes from Birmingham.

After a stay of a little more than a year the new shop of Magor (Limited), which was opened at the city end of Broad Street, under the management of Mr. Magor, pharmaceutical chemist, has ceased to exist, and its place is taken by the all-pervading cycle and accessory shop.

During the rebuilding of the shop occupied at present by Messrs. Bellamy & Wakefield, these chemists have taken temporary premises opposite to Messrs. Southall's apparatus department, and within a stone's throw of the place they vacate for the present, and to which they will return on completion.

Messrs. Philip Harris & Co., Birmingham, have decided to give an interest in the business to the heads of departments, and in future Mr. Standley Belcher and Mr. H. S. Shorthouse, who have been in the service of the company for

many years, will be associated with Mr. Chas. S. Ellis in the joint management. Mr. Ellis will look after the retail department, Mr. Belcher will continue to manage the scientific-apparatus department and workshops, and Mr. Shorthouse, in addition to the management of the laboratories, will superintend the wholesale drug-department.

The enormous Technical School in Suffolk Street, from which such great things were expected, is suffering from a diminution of attendance of students, and it is really amusing to read the explanations given by the committee. Some attribute the cause to sickness of the students, while others, taking advantage of the rage for khaki, lay the fault at the feet of Mars. There are those who think that the newness has faded, and that encouragement is only given to those who sit for and seek the prizes offered to successful candidates in examinations conducted by the Science and Art Department.

After Dr. Carter's address at the Mason College last week a group of prominent pharmacists could be seen with Mr. Gerrard in their midst, all of whom were eagerly engaged in putting their signatures to a document, which the present writer was subsequently permitted to see and to sign. It was a round robin to the Council of the Society in London, telling them in very plain language that the time had come, in their opinion, when pharmacy and its school and offices should be for the pharmacist, and pharmaceutical topics should be in the ascendant. For some time provincial pharmacists have felt that nothing of any interest to them has emanated from the Research Laboratory; but that the pages of other journals (*not the C. & D.*) have been filled with unintelligible "rot," possessing names which stretch across the pages of the said journals, the purport of which is not understood of the people. This leads one to make reference to the Society's methods in other directions. First, is it a fact that it is not possible to find in the ranks of pharmacy men competent to examine aspirants for the legal qualifying examination in pharmacy without having to go outside for the necessary help? . . . There are many other things which might with advantage to its members engage the attention of the incoming Council. Here, for example, are some questions for pharmaceutical politicians:—

1. Will the Society's annual statement of accounts give the debit and credit account of the legal matters it has taken up during the year?
2. Would it not be cheaper to employ its own legal representatives, as is done by municipal authorities, at, say, 300*l.* per annum?
3. What are the net profits which the Society's solicitors get out of the Society's funds per annum?

The Disappearing Olive Oil.

A discovery has been made at Devonport Dockyard which, it is believed, completely solves the mystery which surrounded the disappearance some months ago of more than 11,000 gals. of olive oil. The lead lining of three of the vats has been removed, and a hole bored through the concrete floor of each to a depth of several feet, with the result that the soft soil under each of the vats was found to be completely saturated with oil.

Drug-contracts.

A further list of workhouse and hospital contracts which have been settled is subjoined:—

Barnstable.—Mr. F. Marks, cod-liver oil at 4*s.* 6*d.* per gal., against 5*s.* 4*d.* last year, and quinine at 2*s.* 2*d.* per oz., same price as last year.

Birmingham.—Messrs. Philip Harris & Co. and Southall Brothers & Barclay, for drugs; Philip Harris & Co., Southall Brothers & Barclay, Cuxon, Gerrard & Co., the Chemists' Aged and Mineral Waters Association, and Newton, Chambers & Co., for sundries.

Boston.—Mr. W. Sleaford, for Jeyes' sanitary soap at 26*s.* per cwt., and brown soap at 21*s.* per cwt.

Brighton.—Messrs. Evershed & Son, for saltpetre at 27*s.* per cwt., stick sulphur at 10*s.* per cwt., vinegar at 36*s.* per gal., borax, ground and lump, at 2½*d.* per lb.

Cambridge, Addenbrooke's Hospital.—Messrs. Lilley & Co., for olive oil at 4*s.* per gal., spirits of turpentine at 3*s.* 4*d.* per gal., carbolic soap at 17*s.* per cwt.; Messrs. Shilton Brothers for linseed oil at 2*s.* 6*d.* per gal., Valentine's meat-

juice at 34s. per dozen, Brand's essence at 13s. 6d. per dozen; Messrs. Nichols & Son, borax at 2d. per lb.

Cheltenham.—Messrs. Silk & Sons, for Sanitas soap at 30s. per cwt.; Mr. W. H. Stone, for Jeyes' soap at 29s. per cwt.; and Messrs. Haward & Sons, for Calvert's domestic soap at 37s. per cwt.

Christchurch.—Messrs. Williamson & Co., Bournemouth, for borax at 2d. per lb., powdered brimstone at 9s. 6d. per cwt.; Mr. E. Butler, Christchurch, for bovril at 15s. per dozen; Mr. A. Thrift, Bournemouth, for arrowroot at 6½d. per lb., and toothbrushes at 3s. per dozen; Messrs. Lane & Sons, Christchurch, for stone brimstone at 8s. per cwt.; Messrs. Robson & Co., Bournemouth, for crushed linseed at 2d. per lb., and Valentine's meat-juice at 33s. per dozen; and Mr. W. Keffen, Christchurch, for carbolic soap at 23s. per cwt.

Droxford.—Mr. H. Clark, for carbolic soap at 28s. 6d. per cwt.

Gloucester.—Messrs. Stering & Morris, for sulphur at 9s. per cwt.; and Mr. J. Jackson, for extract of beef at 5s. 6d. per dozen.

Hereford Corporation.—Messrs. W. & H. B. Williams, for weed-killer.

High Wycombe.—Messrs. Young & Coley, chemists and druggists, for quinine, cod-liver oil, and disinfectants.

Maidstone.—Messrs. Stonham & Son, chemists, for drugs.

Southampton.—Mr. W. Martin, for disinfectants to the Corporation.

Thornbury.—Messrs. Councell & Sons, for arrowroot at 1s. per lb., saltpetre at 2d. per lb.; and Mr. H. W. Williams, for linseed meal at 13s. 3d. per cwt., and night-lights at 3s. 10½d. per dozen.

Ulverston.—Mr. W. G. Atkinson, for drugs.

Hospital Laboratory.

The committee of the London Hospital, Whitechapel, E., have decided to build a new dispensary. The plans, which have been prepared under the advice of Mr. E. W. Morris, macerated chemist, the head dispenser (who some time ago succeeded Mr. George Robertson), show that the pharmaceutical laboratories and dispensary will be the largest of the kind attached to any hospital in the country. We understand that the committee have given instructions for the laboratories and dispensaries to be fitted-up regardless of cost with the latest apparatus and appliances for the manufacture of galenicals and surgical dressings.

Maternal Municipalities.

The Liverpool City Council have adopted a recommendation of the Health Committee asking for authority to establish depôts for the preparation and sale of sterilised milk for infants, and for a grant of 1,000l. to carry out the proposal.

At a meeting of the Stockport Town Council on April 4, a member protested against the expenditure of 6l. 17s. 6d. for the visit of a deputation to St. Helen's for the purpose of inspecting the Corporation milk-sterilising depôt there. He inquired whether the deputation had gone "to hear the history and the mystery of the mechanism and scientific construction of titty-bottles," and expressed the opinion that the line should be drawn at a deputation to inspect feeding-bottles. The Mayor said there were more infantile deaths through the misuse of this very insignificant twopenny article than was supposed. The objecting member suggested that the deputation could have got more information "from a decent common-sense mother", but the payment of the deputation's expenses was sanctioned.

Fire.

A number of loafahs in the window of Marshall & Co., chemists, 93 Streatham Hill, S.W., came in contact with the lighted gas, and a fire ensued which did about 100l. worth of damage in a quarter of an hour. Two fire-engines were quickly on the spot, but were not required.

The "Otto" Case.

At the Salford Hundred Quarter Sessions on April 9, John Wright (37), a painter, was charged with breaking into the premises of Mr. Thos. Kerfoot, manufacturing chemist, Bardsley, and stealing six flasks of otto of rose and other

articles, and John Jones (28), herbalist, was charged with receiving the property, knowing it to have been stolen. The evidence showed that Wright had stolen the goods and disposed of them to Jones, who sold them to Mr. Smith, chemist, Rochdale Road, Manchester, for 30s. per flask. It was not suggested that Mr. Smith had any knowledge of the goods being stolen property. The real value of the otto of rose was over 60l. It was argued in Jones's defence that he had not known the value of the otto; that he had given what he believed to be a reasonable price for it, and sold it to Smith in good faith. The prisoner Wright, who had been previously employed at Mr. Kerfoot's premises, was found guilty, and sentenced to nine months' imprisonment with hard labour. Jones was declared not guilty, and was discharged with a caution.

An Assistant's Death.

On April 7, at Wombourne, near Wolverhampton, an inquest was held on the body of George William Stevenson, a chemist's assistant, whose body was found in a field adjoining the town. In deceased's pocket was found a certificate of character from the St. Rollox Apothecaries' Company, Glasgow, stating that the deceased had been in their employ as an assistant for some time, had always been steady and reliable, and left of his own accord for his Minor examination. No money was found on the deceased, but a bottle which had contained prussic acid was discovered a short distance from the body. The evidence showed that deceased had been dispenser to Dr. Martin, of Bloxwich, since February 5, and that he was discharged on March 31, and other information proved that he was the son of Mr. James Stevenson, chemist, Ardishaig. A medical man, who made a *post mortem*, was of opinion that death was due to prussic-acid poisoning, and a verdict of *felo de se* was returned.

A Pharmaceutical Detective.

At Derby Police Court on April 6, two men named Yeomans and Thompson were sentenced to two months' and six weeks' hard labour respectively for loitering near the Cornmarket with intent to commit a felony. Mr. Henry Gray Woodhouse Dawson, pharmaceutical chemist, saw the men loitering near his premises, and his information led to their arrest.

They Asked for Pears'.

At the meeting of the Bristol Board of Guardians last week, items required for the Cumberland House were discussed, and one was Pears' soap for the officers. Some of the members objected, and "best pale" or "best yellow" soaps were recommended as good enough for the Guardians' own use, and, therefore, fit for their officers. One Guardian pleaded for Pears', as being more economical, but suggested as a compromise "white-curd soap." Eventually a vote was taken, the candidates being Pears' soap and best pale soap. The latter came out successful with twenty votes in its favour, fourteen voting for Pears' soap, while twelve Guardians refused to vote, one saying he washed his hands of the affair.

Poisoned by *Arum Maculatum*.

Two children, a boy and girl, at Combe St. Nicholas, near Chard, on April 4, ate a quantity of *Arum maculatum*, which they had discovered growing in the garden. The girl died shortly afterwards, but the boy, who was very sick, has since recovered.

For the Fifth Time.

At the Guildhall on April 7, William Yetton (43) was charged with smashing a plate-glass window in the shop of Messrs. Warner & Co., chemists, 55 Fore Street, E.C. Evidence was given that prisoner deliberately threw a brick at the window. He had been convicted four times previously for breaking the same window. Prisoner did not know the proprietors, and had no grudge against them. He was remanded.

Strychnine-suicide.

At an inquest held at Markington on April 6, on the body of the wife of a gamekeeper named Forrest, the evidence tended to show that the woman had taken some strychnine, which her husband kept for killing vermin. The *post-mortem* examination was inconclusive, but from observation s

while deceased was still alive the medical man thought death was due to strychnine.

A Burglary-charge.

At Eastbourne Petty Sessions on April 9, Charles Franklin was charged with burglariously entering the house of Mr. Robert Harding Trickey, chemist and druggist, 55 Terminus Road, Eastbourne. Mr. Trickey stated that after closing his shop on April 7 he heard a noise, and, on making investigation, discovered prisoner under the dispensing-counter. On examining the till he found that 5*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* was missing, and this amount was found in prisoner's possession. Accused was remanded.

An Overdose of Laudanum.

At the Newington Coroner's Court on April 9, an inquest was held on the body of John Palmer, a labourer. E. J. Sterling, a nephew, deposed that the deceased was in the habit of taking laudanum to induce sleep after drinkings-bouts. The jury returned a verdict, in accordance with the medical evidence, that the deceased took an overdose of laudanum by misadventure.

Carbolic Acid in Oil-shops.

At an inquiry held on April 10 at the Guy's Hospital Coroner's Court touching the death of Beatrice Hunter, aged 10 years, it appeared that the mother of the child sent deceased with a bottle to an oil-shop for a pint of carbolic acid for the drains. The child obtained the poison, and when returning home with it drank a quantity in the street "to see how it tasted," and died in Guy's Hospital. A Juror expressed surprise that such a thing could occur, and the Coroner (Mr. S. F. Langham) said it was only rendered possible by the fact that up to the present the oil-shop keeper had the monopoly of the sale of that deadly poison. The authorities had been trying for some time past to restrict the sale of carbolic acid, but their efforts had proved unavailing. The real danger in the case before them was in selling the acid in beer-cans, vinegar-bottles, pickle-jars and other articles in everyday use, as the poison is taken in many cases by persons in ignorance. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and added a rider that in their opinion the sale of carbolic acid should be restricted in such a way that it could only be sold by responsible persons, in proper bottles with poison-labels upon them.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Personal.

Mr. Wm. Nesbitt, who for the past three years has been dispenser at Dr. Cahill's surgery, Shankhill Road, Belfast, has joined the Royal Army Medical Corps at Aldershot. Mr. Nesbitt has been given the rank of sergeant-major.

Ammonia for Whisky.

A man named McNiff has died in Belfast Workhouse Hospital of ammonia-poisoning. Deceased drank the ammonia in mistake for whisky.

Drug-troubles.

The Armagh Board of Guardians still refuse to supply the medical officers with methylated spirit, because the L.G.B., not classing it as a drug, will not allow rebate. The spirit is wanted for sterilising the vaccination instruments.—The L.G.B. refuse to allow the abatement on the drugs supplied to the Ballymoney (co. Antrim) Union, as the Guardians have not had any analyses done. The Guardians are going to lay the matter before the local M.P., and get the matter placed before the House of Commons.

Careless Labelling.

The Guardians of the New Ross Union, some time ago, sent two samples of drugs from the Templendigan Dispen-

sary to the analyst, and one tincture of quassia, was reported as lamentably deficient in spirit. The contractors, Messrs. P. A. Leslie & Co., Dublin, were asked to explain; and found they had not supplied the Union with any tincture of quassia. They accordingly addressed a strongly-worded complaint to the Guardians. The Guardians, on investigating the matter, found that the medical officers had sent liq. quassiae cone. to the analyst labelled tr. quassiae. The medical officers have apologised for their error. Mr. Ahearne, one of the Guardians, in the discussion, said he had a vague notion that Messrs. Leslie had not been very satisfactory contractors. He has since made a public apology, in which he says nothing was further from his mind than to reflect unfairly on the firm.

Medicine-contracts.

At the Ballyshannon (co. Donegal) Guardians' meeting last week, Mr. Doyle, Belfast, secured the medicines-contract.

At the last meeting of the Linaskea (co. Fermanagh) Board of Guardians, Mr. Jos. A. Doyle, 36 Great Edward Street, Belfast, was declared contractor for the supply of medicines, while the contract for medical and surgical appliances was given to Mr. Robt. Campbell, 35 North Street, Belfast.

At the meeting of the Guardians of the Millstreet (co. Cork) Union on April 7, Messrs. Thacker & Hoffe (Limited), Dublin, were declared contractors for medicines; and the Medical Requisites Company, Cork, got the contract for appliances, each contractor allowing 7½ per cent. off the gross cost.

At the meeting of the Kenmare (co. Kerry) Guardians on April 7, the medical contract was given to Mr. Joseph J. Broderick, Fermoy (co. Cork), at 11 per cent. off the L.G.B. list; and the Medical Requisites Company, of Cork, got the contract for medical and surgical appliances, less an abatement of 5 per cent.

Complaint from Galway.

At the last meeting of the Galway Board of Guardians a letter was read from the Local Government Board stating that they observe from the analyst's report that some of the medicines supplied to the Workhouse were of an inferior quality, and requesting the Guardians to get an explanation from the drug-contractor.

The L.G.B. Instruct.

At last week's meeting of the Ardee Poor-law Guardians the Local Government Board pointed out that medicine-supplies should be ordered not less frequently than once in three months; that on receipt of the quarterly consignments of drugs the medical officer should weigh each article and personally select a few samples and forward them to the Clerk of the Union for transmission to the analyst. The medical officer to take care that the samples are properly taken, that each sample bears a label showing the name of the article, the date of receipt at the dispensary, and the name of the dispensary district. He is also to see that the bottles used for the transmission of liquid drugs are scrupulously clean, sealing-wax should not be put on the corks of the bottles, stoppered bottles should be used in case of liquid acids and volatile drugs, and the bottles should be completely filled to prevent deterioration.

Liability Repudiated.

The Rathmines Urban Council, Dublin, had before them last week correspondence regarding an accident which occurred recently to Mr. Alexander Gordon, L.P.S.I., of the Ranelagh Medical Hall, who while driving through the township was thrown from his trap through the horse falling into a hole in the roadway, caused by the subsidence of the ground. The animal was maimed, and Mr. Gordon and his coachman were injured. A claim was made for 200*l.*, but counsel's opinion was to the effect that if the surface of the road appeared to be in good condition at the time of the accident, Mr. Gordon had no legal redress. The suggestion was made to offer 50*l.* to compromise the threatened action, but it was resolved to leave the matter in the hands of the Council's solicitor, and repudiate all liability.

A Valuable Invention.

At the Dublin City Commission, on April 6, James Legge was indicted on the charge of having pretended to Mr. T. P. Bradshaw, Clontarf, that he was in possession of a new sanitary-powder of which he was the inventor, and that he obtained 50% from complainant by alleged fraudulent representations to that effect. It appeared that Mr. Bradshaw saw an advertisement in the local press for a partner with 50%, for a valuable invention, and as a result he advanced the money. Legge stated that he was getting a lot of the chemical ready for Lord Iveagh's hospital in South Africa, and that Dr. White, of Richmond Street, would recommend the powder. Dr. White deposed that he had written favourably of the powder, and admitted having told Legge that if he sent a consignment of it to Fannin's pharmacy, Grafton Street, he would try to get Sir William Thomson to take it. Legge was found not guilty and was discharged.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Personal.

Mr. T. S. Bogie, chemist and druggist, has again been elected to Melrose School Board.

Business Changes.

Mr. Alexander T. Reoch, 47 Scouringburn, Dundee, has taken over the business at 55A Hawkhill, formerly owned by Dr. Murison.

The business of Messrs. Shield, Mill & Jack, Arbroath, will be carried on in future under the name of Mr. James Jack, F.L.S., pharmaceutical chemist, the sole partner of the firm.

Public Notice.

All persons having claims against the late Mr. James Gardiner, manufacturing chemist, Canonmills, Edinburgh, are requested to lodge the same with Messrs. Menzies, Bruce Low & Thomson, 23 York Place, Edinburgh, before April 17.

Edinburgh Chemists' Golf Club.

At the annual meeting of this Club on April 5 the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—Mr. George Lunan, Captain; Mr. W. C. Baker, Vice-Captain; Mr. James Stott, 10 Royal Crescent, Edinburgh, Secretary; Mr. J. G. Robb, Assistant Secretary; Mr. W. B. Cowie, Treasurer. The main feature of the club's meetings on "The Braids" will be the competition in the "Gibson Handicap" for the medal presented by Mr. Adam Gibson. There are other competitions also for Secretary's and Club prizes. The reports for the past year of the club's finances and general working were satisfactorily passed at the meeting. The annual subscription is 5s. for ordinary members, and 2s. 6d. for apprentice members.

Materia Medica in Glasgow University.

For some weeks past a series of articles has been appearing in the *Glasgow Herald* showing how deficient the University is in the modern requirements for practical teaching, and on Saturday last Professor Ralph Stockman dealt with materia medica and therapeutics. In this he repeats the statements he has made on previous occasions in regard to the inadequate provisions of the University for practical teaching in materia medica and therapeutics. Practical pharmacy is accommodated

in a semi-subterranean apartment which seems to have been originally intended as a store. Here the class is at present carried on. It is so dark at one end that the gas must often be lighted even in summer; it contains no properly-fitted working-benches for the students, and no gas or water is laid on for their use. So primitive are the arrangements that for heating-purposes in chemical operations spirit-lamps have to be used instead of gas, and for disposing of dirty water pails instead of sinks. All this interferes with orderly and rapid work in the class, while the extra labour involved in carrying it on under such conditions is

very considerable. The place is fundamentally so ill-adapted for the purpose to which it is at present put that any expenditure on it would simply be a waste of money. The arrangements for teaching therapeutics are also in a highly unsatisfactory condition. There is a very excellent class-room—well lighted and easy to speak and hear in—but everything else is wanting or inadequate. The professor's retiring-room has lately been converted into a small research-laboratory, but it still leaves a deficiency of such accommodation, while there is no room suitable for a museum or for storage-purposes.

As Dr. Stockman is the University professor in this subject he knows what he is writing about, and he concludes by stating that a sum of 12,000*l.* will be required to make his department efficiently equipped.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

A CONGRESS OF CHEMISTRY will be held in Paris from August 6 to 11, in connection with the Paris Exhibition. Particulars may be obtained from the Organising Secretary, M. Bertrand, boulevard Voltaire 188, Paris.

PREPARING FOR THE EXHIBITION.—I was standing at the open window one day last week when I heard the lowing of a cow in the courtyard below. This rather unusual sound (in my flat in the centre of Paris) excited my curiosity, and I asked the concierge what it meant. "It's the vaccination, Monsieur," she explained; "I came up to tell you the other day, but you were out." The Municipality, it appears, anxious to avoid the possibility of epidemics during the Exhibition year, were thus arranging for house-to-house vaccination. There was, I found, in the courtyard a pretty little brown heifer. Its sides were already shaved and scarified, and the attendant was preparing to supply lymph. I recognised the doctor as a practitioner of good standing, and asked him if he would vaccinate me. "Certainly; just roll up your sleeve," he replied; and in the open passage he made the necessary piques. I do not know if they have "taken" yet, but the fearful irritation my kind friends promised me has not set in.

THE LATE DR. BEAUREGARD.—A friend of this pharmaceutical professor has supplied me with a few details of his career, of which the following are the most striking:—M. Henri Beauregard was appointed^d after competition, assistant professor at the Paris School of Pharmacy in 1879 and held the post until 1894. He was soon afterwards named as the titular Professor of Cryptogamy, and was also Assistant for Comparative Anatomy at the Paris Museum. During this time he published several important works treating of insects, some of which have been recognised as standard works by the Academy of Sciences. At the School of Pharmacy he specialised in the study of micrography and cryptogamy, and published his "Guide to Practical Work in Micrography." In 1892 he was called upon to take the professorship of cryptogamy for twelve months, and thenceforward devoted himself entirely to that science. His researches of about two years ago on ambergis attracted attention by his discovery of a microbe—*spirillum recti physeteris*—remarkable for its vitality. Dr. Beauregard's premature death is a distinct loss to French pharmacy and to the Paris School, where his scientific attainments and personal qualities were much valued and appreciated.

A PHARMACIST RENDERED A PUBLIC SERVICE to Parisians a few days ago in a case of passing counterfeit coin. A man named Lecomte went into M. Delage's pharmacy in the rue Dauphine, Paris, and asked for twopennyworth of bismuth. A new 5*fr.* silver piece was tendered in payment. It seemed light and had a suspicious touch, so the pharmacist said he would weigh it. "Oh, here is another," said the customer; "you know we all get spurious coins passed on us occasionally." But the customer did not seem at his ease, and insisted so strongly on having the coin returned that the pharmacist, being suspicious, sent for a policeman. At the police-station the man was searched, and only good money found on him, but quite a number of packets of bismuth. "Are you very ill?" asked the Police Commissary.

"Why, no; I only bought several packets of bismuth so as to compare the quality, as it is difficult to rely on the things one gets at pharmacies nowadays." Leconte was on the point of being let off, when a policeman noticed a glove belonging to him on a bench, picked it up, and found it contained five counterfeit 5f. pieces. The result was that a search was made at prisoner's house, and a complete plant for making spurious coins found. He had been carrying on the business for ten years, and, as a result, netted an income of about 800*l.* a year. He is now in prison. M. Delage, the pharmacist, has been congratulated on being the means of bringing the coiner to justice.

Australasian Letter.

Melbourne March 9.

MR. H. T. GOULD, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania, whose banquet to the members was mentioned in the *C. & D.*, March 24, page 496, has been re-elected for another year.

CHEMISTS' DEFENCE FUND.—Some members of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales are discussing the formation of a defence fund for use in cases brought against chemists which the Society's solicitors may consider as practically blacknailing and not due to the fault of the defendant. The proposal is to be discussed at the annual meeting.

INDECENT ADVERTISEMENTS.—A Bill prohibiting indecent or obscene advertisements has passed the Parliament of Victoria, and has been made a part of the Crimes Act. A similar prohibition has been in force in South Australia for some time, but the Victorian Act is, if anything, a little more precise as regards the definition of the prints prohibited. There is a difference, however, that the innocent distributors of objectionable advertisements are not liable to a penalty until they have been warned of the offence and have repeated it.

THE CARBOLIC-ACID PROCLAMATION was cabled to the leading wholesale houses in these colonies, but unless the war is greatly prolonged it is not likely to cause any inconvenience. There are no manufacturers of pure phenol here, one of the reasons being that the gasworks are able to sell their tar at much better prices than are obtainable in Great Britain. The principal use of the by-product is for tar pavements, the tar when mixed with sand forming a fairly durable and clean surface. There are numerous firms who distil tar for the purpose of making pitch, and one or two who make crude carbohc acid.

THE WAR.—In all the Australasian colonies chemists have taken their part in raising funds for providing for the widows and children of the killed and in fitting-out the various Volunteer contingents. The province of Otago, N.Z., with its population of not more than 174,000, contributed 10,000*l.* to the patriotic fund, besides raising a contingent of 150 men and 250 horses, nearly the whole expense of equipment being provided by subscription. It was suggested that each district, profession, and trade should provide a horse, each horse to bear a special name. The Dunedin chemists called their horse "Pills." The dentists also provided a horse, to be called, according to a wag, "Oh, my!" The employés of Kempthorne, Prosser & Co.'s New Zealand Drug-company, Dunedin, provided a horse, and Mr. T. W. Kempthorne, managing director of the company and President of the Otago Pharmaceutical Association, gave 100*l.* to the "More Horse Fund."

THE BUBONIC PLAGUE.—There seems now no doubt that bubonic plague has definitely shown itself on Australian shores. The cases said to have occurred at Adelaide a few weeks ago could hardly be called unmistakable, especially as, in spite of most primitive attempts at isolation, no further cases occurred. In a case at Sydney it seems that the victim found five dead rats in a water-closet, and, after removing them, was attacked with febrile symptoms and glandular swellings, which caused death in a short time. It then became known that there had been an epidemic among the rats at various wharves, and the New South Wales authorities promptly took steps to decimate the

rats, their example being followed by the authorities in Victoria, where, however, no cases have yet shown themselves. Nothing approaching a scare has yet occurred in either colony, but suspected cases are promptly isolated, and the premises thoroughly disinfected. The demand for disinfectants has not increased in any marked extent.

HARRY THE CONDY TRADE-MARK.—An injunction restraining Harry Poole from selling under the designation of "Condy's crystals" permanganate of potash or any chemical not being of plaintiffs' manufacture, or from selling or offering for sale to persons desiring to procure "Condy's fluid" permanganate of potash in solution as the equivalent of "Condy's fluid," has been granted at the Sydney Equity Court on behalf of Messrs. Condy & Mitchell (Limited).

Colonial and Foreign News.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETIES OF ROUMANIA have combined, under the title of the "Association Générale du Corps Pharmaceutique de Roumanie." The president is Professor Athanasescu, and the headquarters are at Bucharest.

A SCHOOL OF MEDICINE has been founded by Dr. Loghman el Mamalek, physician to the Hereditary Prince of Persia, at Tauris. It possesses a scientific society, a paper, a pharmacy, and an equipment of surgical and ophthalmic instruments.

PHARMACOPŒIA-REVISION.—The new edition of the Belgian Pharmacopœia is being revised. About a third of the preparations now official are to be struck out as useless. The additions include several substances of recent date, such as aïrol, eucalyptol, guaiacol, ichthyol, protargol, and salophen. Medicated soaps and various surgical dressings are also to be added.

CINCHONA AND QUININE.—The Java correspondent of the *Straits Budget* reports that the cinchona-planters have latterly grown weary of being fleeced by bark and quinine dealers in Europe, who had combined to secure low market rates for raw material. The planters struck the first blow at the ring by starting a factory at Bandong to manufacture quinine from the bark locally produced. The quinine was sent to Europe for sale. The ring so managed matters that the planters failed to get fairly remunerative prices for the Java-made drug. The planters, upon this, decided to sell their quinine at Batavia. The first auction-sale proved to be a great success, and the prices realised far exceeded the limit. The continuance of quinine auction-sales at that port is now a certainty.

ANALYSIS OF CHEMICALS IN TURKEY.—An Imperial Iradé regulating the analysis of chemicals at all Turkish Custom-houses enacts that all chemical preparations and pharmaceutical specialties, foods and drinks, and soaps, are to be subjected to an examination at the Custom-house. The analysis is to be done by special assistants, and no charge will be made. If found correct the sample is sealed and entered; if not, the substance remains eight days in the laboratory, during which time the owner may demand a further analysis, which must be made within fifteen days at the Imperial School of Medicine, at the owner's cost. The importation of medicaments of unknown composition, or which do not correspond to the "Codex Français," is not allowed. The School of Medicine may grant permission for those articles used in an official academy, but the documents must be "viséd" by an Ottoman Consul. The following articles may not be used in specialties:—Cocaine and its salts, sulphonal, Koch's tuberculin serum, picrotoxin, and preparations of hashish. The importation of potassium chlorate, sodium chloride, sodium nitrate, potassium nitrate, picrates, or nitroglycerin, is prohibited, and such articles will be confiscated. Should any of these be required in medicine, they will be supplied by the Head of Artillery at cost-prices in amounts fixed by the Imperial School. Chlorate-of-potassium lozenges, and other specialties which cannot be used for preparing explosives, may be imported. Alcoholic preparations coloured or containing salicylic acid may not be imported. In the Custom-house laboratory at Constantinople there will be five chemists and two doctors.

British Pharmaceutical Conference.

A MEETING of the Executive Committee was held at 16 Bloomsbury Square on April 4. Present: Mr. E. M. Holmes (President), in the chair; Mr. J. F. Harrington (Vice-President), Professors Attfeld and Greenish, and Messrs. Atkins, Symes, Hills, and Bird, White, Atkinson, Warren, and Cracknell (Hon. Local Secretaries), Mr. J. C. Umney (Treasurer), Messrs. Naylor and Ransom (Hon. General Secretaries), and Mr. Nightingale (Assistant Secretary).

The President introduced the question of a proposed Conference Scholarship for the promotion of pharmaceutical research. After much discussion, it was decided to postpone the consideration of the subject until the next meeting of the Executive.

The President also announced that he had, on behalf of the Committee, caused to be sent a circular note to all members of the Society of Public Analysts, inviting them to join the Conference.

On the recommendation of the Local Committee, the date of the commencement of the London meeting of the Conference was definitely fixed for Monday, July 23.

The following thirty-nine gentlemen, having been duly nominated, were elected to membership:—Peter Bell, Newcastle-on-Tyne; E. J. Bevan, London; J. T. Birkbeck, Lincoln; F. J. Boardman, Leigh, Lancs; Hugh Candy, London; J. W. P. Chambers, West Bradford; W. C. Collen, London; F. Creswell, London; R. S. Dampney, London; Dr. J. Edmunds, London; J. P. Gilmour, Glasgow; J. Hills Hartridge, Hendon; G. A. Hodgkinson, London; A. Jeans, Manchester; P. Knoll, Bolton; A. H. M. Muter, London; Dr. John Muter, London; A. Naysmith, Arbroath; D. H. Oxen, Newcastle, Staffs; W. Parsons, Blackheath; E. H. Peters, London; J. Phillips, Ashton-under-Lyne; H. H. Pollard, Ryde; F. B. Power, London; Martin Priest, London; J. H. Riddle, Glasgow; F. A. Rogers, London; F. Pilkington Sargeant, Leeds; G. A. Sargeant, London; J. Selley, London; J. H. Smith, London; F. A. Stamp, London; E. H. Storey, London; J. W. J. Turner, Sheffield; G. Wahmsley, Kingston; A. Wigginton, London; F. A. Williamson, Preston; M. Mellor Woodward, Reigate; Hy. Wootton, London.

LONDON ARRANGEMENTS.

A meeting of the General Committee was held at 16 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., on Tuesday afternoon, Mr. Carteighe presiding in the absence of Mr. Wm. Martindale, the Chairman of the committee.

Reports of the Executive Committee were submitted regarding the arrangements for the entertainment of members of the Conference in July next. After inquiry, it has been found that the Hotel Russell in Russell Square would be unsuitable for the headquarters, as there is no accommodation other than public rooms for a reception. It had been ascertained that the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole would be available from July 23 to 25, and the Executive recommended that they should be obtained for the occasion.

There will be a reception there on Monday evening, July 23, but the President will not, as was originally suggested, give his address then, but on Tuesday morning at Bloomsbury Square.

Tuesday evening is reserved for private functions, but arrangements are to be made well ahead for the booking of seats at theatres and music-halls.

A garden party at the Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, will be held on Wednesday, and in the evening there will be a concert in the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole, followed by a dance, and one of the rooms will be reserved as a smoking-room, where those who do not dance can continue the concert-arrangements. It is proposed that the Hôtel Métropole shall be the headquarters, and rooms be reserved for those who desire to put up in that high-class hotel, but there are, of course, in London hundreds of other hotels which will be available for the visitors.

The luncheons will be served in one of the halls of the Holborn Restaurant on Tuesday and Wednesday at one o'clock.

It was also intimated that the ladies attending the Conference would have the use of Mr. Bremridge's house during the Tuesday and Wednesday, and that a Ladies' Committee would be convened later on by Mrs. Martindale.

On Thursday there will be an excursion on the River Thames. Train will be taken from Paddington to Henley, and there will be two magnificent barges, such as the Oxford Colleges use, to convey the party to Maidenhead. Luncheon will be served on board. On landing in the evening dinner will be served in one of the hotels at Taplow. Mr. Carteighe fully explained the nature of these arrangements, which are, of course, as yet general in conception, and details have to be filled in. The committee accepted the report, and referred it back to the Executive Committee to work out, it being agreed that another meeting be held about June to discuss further details.

Mr. Warren, one of the hon. local secretaries, reported that he had already promises of 330*l.* for the entertainment of visitors, but was still open to receive more.

Trade Notes.

THE JEWEL PEN COMPANY has, owing to increased business, removed to more commodious premises at 102 Fenchurch Street, E.C.

MESSRS. BURROUGHS, WELLCOME & Co., Snow Hill Buildings, E.C., inform us that the "Wellcome Photographic Exposure Record and Diary for 1900" is exhausted. Five editions were printed.

EASTER HOLIDAYS.—The following firms intimate their intention to close from Thursday evening, April 12, until the morning of the following Tuesday:—Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., Coleman Street, E.C.; Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co.; Messrs. Oppenheimer, Son & Co. (Limited), 179 Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

MERCK'S REPORT.—We have before us a copy of this report for 1899. The report deals with most of the newer remedies, and gives as well concise information as to their uses and preparation, culled from current medical and pharmaceutical literature. There are also interesting articles on tuberculosis, antitoxins, and cyanide-antidote case. The report can be had by any chemist by addressing Mr. E. Merck, 16 Jewry Street, E.C.

Business Changes.

Notices are inserted free in this section if properly authenticated.

MESSRS. ARNETT & Co. have opened a drug-stores at 5 Munster Road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. R. T. WOODALL has purchased the chemist business at 25 Queen Street, Portsea, Portsmouth, lately carried on by Mr. W. A. Savill.

MESSRS. CRUSE & Co., chemists, Southsea, have recently disposed of their branch-pharmacy at 1 Victoria Road South to Mr. John Oliver, chemist and druggist.

MR. S. C. JONES, for many years with Mr. J. Wellesley Douglas at Lambeth Walk, S.E., has purchased Mr. G. F. Pursey's business at 6 Beekton Road, Canning Town, E.

MR. G. F. PURSEY, chemist and druggist, late of Beekton Road, Canning Town, E., has purchased the business in Lower Mortlake Road, Richmond, lately carried on by Mr. Thornton.

MR. W. GOURD, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of Mr. Henry T. Jeffery at 3 Queen Street, Portsea, carried on as the "Portsea Dispensary and Drug-stores." Mr. Jeffery has taken the premises 48 Arundel Street, Landport, and will on completion of extensive alterations open same as the "Arundel Drug-stores Company."

Chemical Society.

THE meeting on Thursday evening, April 5, at Burlington House, was rather thinly attended. Professor J. M. Thomson, F.R.S., one of the Vice-Presidents, took the chair (in the absence of Professor Thorpe), and after the usual preliminary proceedings, which included reading the names in the visitors' book (now becoming a regular custom), Mr. Newth was called upon to make his first communication, which was on

THE LIQUEFACTION OF GASES BY SELF-COOLING.

Mr. Newth is a brilliant experimenter. He explained to the Fellows that his object in this matter was to devise an experiment capable of being shown to students without the costly apparatus necessary on the scales devised by Linde, Hampson, and Dewar. The last-named authority's apparatus, he explained, requires the use of solid carbonic acid, which is not a thing available in educational laboratories. He then described his own apparatus, which consists of a spiral of drawn copper tube $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in diameter. This tube can be closed by means of a steel pin somewhat similar to a darning-needle. For the purpose of illustration he uses liquefied nitrous oxide, a tube of which as supplied to dentists (containing the equivalent of 50 gals. of the gas) being attached to the copper spiral. The spiral is placed inside a vacuum-jacketted test-tube, and the cylinder of gas is placed in a jaw-jar, so that it may be surrounded by water at a temperature of 30° C. in order to maintain sufficient pressure to vaporise the liquefied gas and give a continuous flow. It is necessary that there should be no tube within the cylinder, as the contents must not be discharged from the cylinder in the liquefied state, otherwise the tube gets choked up with frozen gas. Mr. Newth opened the cylinder, and allowed the gaseous nitrous oxide to escape with a hissing noise through the copper spiral. In its expansion from the capillary orifice of the spiral the gas is cooled down to the critical point, and in about twenty seconds Mr. Newth had collected liquid gas in the tube to the depth of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. He then showed how it could be solidified. For this purpose he had an ordinary pair of bellows on which was an indiarubber tube, with a glass L tube at the end, which was dipped in the vacuum-jacketted tube containing the liquid gas, and one or two strokes of the bellows blew off a cloud of snow, and froze the liquid into an ice-like crystalline solid.

There was practically no discussion upon the paper, but Dr. Alexander Scott claimed that Professor Dewar, in a communication that had been printed in the *Proceedings* of the Society, described a practically similar arrangement. Mr. Newth was then called upon for his second communication, which was on

PARTIALLY MISCIBLE AQUEOUS INORGANIC SOLUTIONS.

He showed that when 0.880 solution of ammonia and a saturated solution of potassium carbonate (57.3 grammes in 100 c.c.) are shaken together they do not mix, but the ammonia solution comes up to the top again, just as ether does when shaken with water. Each of the solutions dissolves part of the other; thus the potash solution dissolves 37 per cent. of ammonia, and the ammonia solution 6 per cent. of potassium carbonate. Mr. Newth showed that there is a distinct curve of miscibility affected by the temperature and strength of the potassium-carbonate solution. The result of this is that solutions can be made which are turbid at the normal temperature through separation of potassium carbonate, the mixtures becoming quite clear when heated. Thus one which became clear at 26° was shown in a long, narrow test-tube, which was grasped by Mr. Newth, and on opening his hand there were seen in the solution white streaks opposite where the finger inter-spaces were, the rest being clear. He also showed that the same phenomenon of immiscibility happens when ammoniated solutions of copper sulphate and nickel sulphate are mixed with saturated potassium-carbonate solution. Incidentally he protested against such loose expressions as "ammonia in excess," as every student has his own idea as to what an excess means. It is commonly supposed that when ammonia is added in excess to copper-sulphate solution a blue pre-

cipitate is first formed, and is redissolved in excess to form a dark-blue solution. But, to the delight of the audience, Mr. Newth kept pouring in ammonia solution into some copper-sulphate solution, the blue precipitate quickly dissolving, and the resulting blue solution was as quickly changed to brown when a large excess of ammonia was added; on standing the brown precipitate subsided, leaving a clear solution at the top. He also showed that when excess of potassium carbonate is added to ferric-chloride solution the precipitate formed redissolved, although ammonia under the same circumstance does not dissolve the ferric hydroxide which is precipitated. Mr. Newth stated that he means to continue his research.

In the discussion which followed Professor Divers suggested that potassium carbonate really acts towards solution of ammonia as a dehydrating agent, just as it does with alcohol, and he suggested that if it was added in the dry state to the solution contained in a sealed tube absolute ammonia hydrate would be obtained.

Mr. David Howard was very pleased to hear Mr. Newth's protest against the use of the word "excess." The effect of it upon students they all knew, but when intelligent chemists came across the term "soluble in excess" in text-books and works of authority they were quite at sea as to what was required, and he suggested that these books should define the excess within at least 10 molecules.

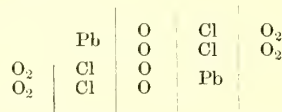
Professor Dunstan referred to Hartford's attempt to introduce test-solutions containing molecular proportions, and the difficulty it was for students to adopt them. Some remarks that he made in regard to the cupr-ammonium sulphate brought Mr. Bloxam to his feet, to state that potassium carbonate forms a double copper and potassium carbonate, which in presence of ammonia becomes blue.

Mr. Newth then replied, stating that he had tried the experiment referred to by Professor Divers and found that a very easy means of getting gaseous ammonia was to drop strong solution of ammonia upon dry potassium carbonate.

The next communication was by Mr. Sodeau on the

DECOMPOSITION OF LEAD CHLORATE BY HEAT.

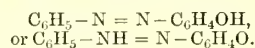
He prepared the pure salt and found that, although it dissolves in a third of water, it is not deliquescent. Studying the effect of heat upon it he ascertained that when slowly decomposed it resolves itself into PbO_2 , PbCl_2 , O, and Cl. Free chlorine increases with the reduction of pressure, 45.3 per cent. being obtained at one atmosphere, and 81.4 at 1 to 2 mm., the rest being liberated as PbCl . The normal decomposition of the chlorate by heat may be represented with two molecules thus:—



After a compliment to Mr. Sodeau from the Chairman, Dr. Hewitt was called upon to make some observations regarding

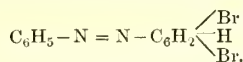
THE BROMINATION OF BENZENEAZOPHENOL.

In consequence of some criticism by Dr. H. E. Armstrong on previous work of his on this subject, Dr. Hewitt and Mr. W. G. Aston have further experimented, and they find that Dr. Armstrong was wrong in saying that bromine in this case acts as if the body were a quinone. The doubtful point hitherto has been whether the body is



When bromine acts upon the body without special precautions, it is found that it attaches itself to the NH group, and thus sustains Dr. Armstrong's contention, but Dr. Hewitt argued that this was because hydrobromic acid is formed in the reaction and attaches itself to the group. By using Meldola's method (with the consent of the originator), which consists in dissolving the phenol in glacial acetic acid and saturating with sodium acetate as soon as hydrobromic acid is formed, on adding bromine it is taken out of the

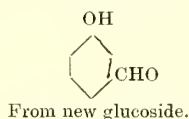
field of action by the sodium acetate (bromide of sodium being formed) and dibromobenzeneazophenol results, viz.:—



This was admired as a particularly neat bit of work, and was duly applauded by the Fellows, Professor Dunstan adding appropriate compliments.

A NEW GLUCOSIDE FROM WILLOW-BARK

was the next item, Dr. H. A. D. Jowett, of the Wellcome chemical-research laboratories, providing it. When working with black willow (*Salix nigra*), the usual crystalline substance supposed to be salicin (all the text-books say that salicin is the active principle) was obtained. On recrystallisation the glucoside was found not to have the proper melting-point, and further examination showed that its optical rotation also differed, and that it did not give the usual red colour with sulphuric acid. The literature of the subject revealed nothing about the substance. On hydrolysing it yielded glucose and a crystalline derivative like saligenin, but the composition of the derivative was found to be different from saligenin, which is the alcohol of ortho-hydroxybenzene ($\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\cdot\text{OH}\cdot\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$), while this other is the aldehyde of metahydroxybenzene ($\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\cdot\text{OH}\cdot\text{CHO}$)—



The formula of the new glucoside, which Dr. Jowett proposes to name *Salinigrin*, is, therefore, $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_6$.

In the brief discussion Mr. MacEwan expressed his curiosity to know if commercial salicin contained salinigrin, and Dr. F. B. Power referred to the interest attached to the discovery of such a substance as this in the vegetable kingdom at a time when new remedies of a synthetic nature are being introduced which do not differ more in molecular structure than salicin and salinigrin. He did not consider it remarkable that two willows should contain different principles, as we have in the cinchonas examples of different species producing different alkaloids, and even the common thyme yielded at different times essential oils, one of which might contain chiefly the body known as thymol, and the other the allied body carvacrol; but how Nature produced these substances differing only in ortho and meta groupings is a problem yet to be solved. Dr. Jowett replied to the effect that he had his eye on commercial salicin.

Another brief paper concluded the proceedings.

Westminster Wisdom.

THERE is little to report from St. Stephen's this week, as practically nothing of pharmaceutical interest took place between Thursday, April 5, and Monday, April 9, when Parliament adjourned for the Easter recess. Mr. Ritchie has placed the second reading of the Companies Bill down for Monday, April 23, but that is a mere formality. Mr. Faithfull Begg's Bill on the same subject is down for second reading on April 26, which is the day Parliament meets again after the Easter recess. The Shops Bills are down for April 27 (Mr. Provand's) and May 2, and the Veterinary Surgeons Amendment Bill now stands for its second reading on April 30.

The House of Lords has been asked by the Commons to appoint five Peers to form a Committee, with five of the Lower House, to inquire into boiler-explosions prevention, this being the net result of the three Bills which were introduced this Session, but have been withdrawn.

The Committee stage of the Midwives Bill has not yet been passed in the Commons, and the Bill will again come up for consideration on April 26.

"Empire Day" as an additional bank-holiday is proposed in a Bill which was introduced on Friday, April, 6 by Mr. Faithfull Begg and others, and read a first time. It amends the Bank Holiday Acts, 1871 and 1874, and the second reading is put down for May 23.

Society of Chemical Industry.

[MANCHESTER SECTION.]

AT the meeting held at the Victoria Hotel on Friday, April 6, Dr. Grossman in the chair, Dr. Grossman was re-elected Chairman, Mr. Ivan Levinstein Vice-Chairman, Mr. J. Carter Bell Hon Secretary, and as members of the Committee, Messrs. G. H. Bailey, Dr. J. Bowman, W. Brown, H. Grimshaw, J. M. Irving, H. Porter, M. J. Langdon, T. Craven, J. Irwen, Dr. A. K. Miller, F. Scudder, Dr. Rée, Sir Thos. Wardle, N. Heys, and C. Truby. Dr. Bowman and Mr. Irvine were reappointed auditors. Mr. J. M. Irving then read a communication on

NAPHTHALINE IN COAL-GAS

and its effect on mains and services, after which Mr. Levenstein delivered an address on

THE PATENT LAWS AND THEIR DEFECTS.

He commenced by stating that these laws interfere with our trade and industries. Germany copies our laws, but litigation connected with them is not so expensive as in England. Examination of patents costs in Germany not one-twentieth of the cost here, and to the English poor man the cost of examining a patent is prohibitive. He preferred the American system. He defended preliminary examinations, but did not defend the way in which they are carried on in Germany. Mr. Ritchie had expressed himself in favour of an amendment of the Patent Laws, and had promised the appointment of a committee of inquiry; but as such committee would most likely be composed of a few Judges, one or two members of the Board of Trade, and a few patent agents, the muddle to follow would be greater than ever. The bulk of the patents granted during the last twenty-five or thirty years related to chemical-industries—coal-tar, foods, sweetenings, artificial perfumes, and photography—in connection with which many thousands of hands were employed and millions of capital had been invested. Germany had advanced greatly in this department of trade, and it is only lately that we in England have begun to wake up to its importance. Technical education will not win back our lost industries, nor inaugurate new branches of them. The industries are in the hands of powerful companies and syndicates, who employ experts and chemists to further their interests. They hold the grip of certain trades. Very often the advantages accruing abroad from chemical-industries had been derived from British patents.

A discussion followed, in which the Chairman, Mr. Grimshaw, Mr. Davies, and Mr. Nasmyth joined, and it was unanimously resolved—

That this meeting approves of the action of the Chemical Section of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce in its desire to secure, in connection with the Patent Laws, preliminary examinations of novelties; that provision be made for granting patents of addition; that patentees should only have the right of taking patents of addition on condition that they expired at the same time as the original patent; and that it is desirable to limit section 18 so far as concerns patents which cannot be defined by drawings.

This was all the business.

FOUR THOUSAND two hundred plants are used for commercial purposes, of which 420 are devoted to the manufacture of perfumes.

MISPLACED PREFIX.—On Monday, April 2, at an Urban District Council election in Ross (Hereford) a canvasser was soliciting votes for a local chemist, and called on an old lady. The old lady said: "Well, I likes that mon, him used to make up my subscriptions from the doctor better than anybody." The canvasser remarked: "What have doctors specially to do with subscriptions?" The old lady said: "Why, George, ain't it their trade?" The canvasser said: "You must mean prescriptions?" The old lady's reply was: "You keep your larned language; you be on with your old ganmut again, George, like you was when you was about here years ago; but you tell the mon I be right for him."

Deaths.

BAXTER.—At Mason's Hill, Bromley, Kent, on April 8, Mr. William Walmisley Baxter, pharmaceutical chemist. Aged 70. The late Mr. Baxter was one of the oldest tradesmen in Bromley, having succeeded to the business which his father established in 1818. Owing to declining health he relinquished his business three years ago in favour of his son. The late Mr. Baxter's father was for many years assistant to the celebrated Dr. Scott, of Bromley, and one of his apprentices was the late Mr. Frederick Barron (Barron, Squire & Co.). Mr. Baxter was a Freemason, and a founder of the Crystal Palace and Harvey Lodge.

BLAIR.—At Eglantine, Montenegro, on April 4, Mr. John Blair, pharmaceutical chemist. Aged 65. The late Mr. Blair was the founder and senior partner of the firm of Blair & Son, chemists, Cork. He came of an old Scotch family, and was born near the port of Menteith. His parents having removed to Glasgow, he served a seven-years' apprenticeship with his uncle, the medical officer of the parish of Govan, and was afterwards an assistant with the Glasgow Apothecaries' Company. Leaving there, he went to Cork, first to Messrs. W. H. M. Goulding, and subsequently to Messrs. Harrington & Sons, with whom he remained for over twenty years. On leaving Messrs. Harrington he purchased the business of Mr. Atkins, L.A.H., which he made a successful pharmaceutical concern. He was well known and much respected in Cork, being a particularly good friend to the poor.

COLEY.—At Stroud, on March 30, Mrs. Sophia Coley, mother of Mr. S. J. Coley, chemist and druggist, Stroud. Aged 84.

DAVENPORT.—Mr. G. H. T. Davenport, son of Mr. George Aldersley Davenport, chemist, Plymouth, died at North Sydney on January 10. Aged 41. Deceased went to Australia when 21 years of age.

DOWNES.—It was with great regret that at the end of last week the news was heard in Dublin that Mr. R. J. Downes, ex-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, had died on April 7, aged 58 years. Mr. Downes was one of the first

the front, and he was called as a witness by the Parliamentary Committee which reported upon the Bill that became the Amendment Act of 1890. Mr. Downes joined the Council the following year, and filled the office of Vice-President before he was elected President in 1897, succeeding Mr. W. F. Wells, jun. This office he recently resigned owing to continued ill-health, and it is sad to note that this issue contains a report of his resignation of his seat on the Council. Mr. Downes was a capable practical pharmacist, and the owner of the Fitzwilliam Pharmacy (Brooks & Co.), Lower Baggot Street, Dublin. We believe it was owing to his persistent correspondence with the Lord Chancellor that the latter was educated up to the point of acknowledging that companies should not be allowed to do in pharmacy what private individuals are not allowed to do.

The funeral took place at Mount Jerome on Monday. The large and representative *cortège* testified to the great respect entertained for Mr. Downes. Amongst those present were:—Rev. R. W. Landey, Rev. T. P. Landey (brothers-in-law), Mr. T. Bible, J.P. (Cork), Rev. J. Stuart Long, Rev. C. B. Dowse, A.M., Rev. H. E. Patton, A.M., Alderman Ireland, J.P., Mr. W. Spence, C.E. (Goods Superintendent G.S. & W.R.), Messrs. C. Ashenhurst, L. Murphy, W. Carey, R. S. Webster, D. P. Curtis, C. B. Carey, H. Bowden, John Gardiner, J. H. Bowden, H. J. O'wgan, J. Hall, J. R. Middleton, W. Dawson, and G. Collins (of Messrs. Casey & Clay). The following represented the Pharmaceutical Society:—Messrs. G. D. Beggs, P.P.S.I., J. I. Bernard, V.P.P.S.I., Chas. Evans, Dr. Tieborne, and W. F. Wells (Ex-Presidents), W. D. Porter, P. Kelly, R. Simpson, and James Michie (members of the Council); Messrs. Henry O'Connor, W. V. Johnston, J. S. Ashe, J. Smith, H. Conyngham, H. S. Misstear (members of the Society); Mr. A. T. Ferrall (Registrar).

FREW.—On March 29, Mr. James McDonald Frew, chemist and druggist, Dingwall. Aged 33.

HUGILL.—At Chislehurst, on April 10, from bronchitis, Mr. John Hugill, pharmaceutical chemist, senior partner of Messrs. Meggeson & Co., medical-lozenge manufacturers, Miles Lane, E.C. In his 88th year.

KENNERLEY.—On March 31, Mr. William Kennerley, chemist and druggist, Liscard. Aged 51.

MACLAGAN.—On April 5, at 28 Heriot Row, Edinburgh, Andrew Douglas MacLagan, M.D., LL.D., Knight Bachelor, recently professor of medical jurisprudence and public health in the University of Edinburgh. Aged 87. Sir Douglas MacLagan was one of the oldest honorary members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, having been elected in 1852; he was also one of the oldest Fellows of the Chemical Society, to which he was elected in January, 1844, while he was also the *doyen* and a Past President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. He was born in Ayr on April 17, 1812, his father, Dr. David MacLagan, being a distinguished army surgeon, and he was one of seven sons, of whom several reached distinction, one being the present Archbishop of York. Douglas MacLagan—as he was familiarly called—was educated at the Edinburgh High School and at the University there. When 19 he was licensed by the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, and in the following year was elected a Fellow of the College and took his degree as doctor of medicine at the



members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, and from the outset took a personal interest in its welfare, especially in the evening meetings, but his comparatively weak health prevented him taking a very active part in the administration of the Society until 1889, when the proposed amendment of the Pharmacy Act in favour of the druggists brought him to



University. Afterwards he continued his studies in Berlin, London, and Paris, and, returning to Edinburgh, settled down as an assistant-surgeon in the Royal Infirmary, at the same time continuing his studies of materia medica, in which he was from the first an authority. It was in 1843 that he described Bibeeru bark, and this was followed by other publications on materia medica and chemical subjects, the alkaloid bibe-rine having been discovered by him. In 1845 he was appointed lecturer on materia medica in the Edinburgh Extra-Academical School of Medicine, and that position he held until 1862, when he was appointed to the chair of medical jurisprudence in the Edinburgh University. MacLagan was early befriended by the late Sir Robert Christison, and they worked together. It would doubtless have been to MacLagan's liking had the chair which he had received at the Edinburgh University been Christison's, but they were destined to work together as colleagues. When Sir Robert retired from the office of Privy Council visitor at the pharmaceutical examinations in Edinburgh, his friend MacLagan was appointed to succeed him. By this time Professor MacLagan was one of the Crown medical officers in Scotland for medico-legal matters. Although he never became popular as a medical consultant, the regard for him throughout the Scotch profession was of the highest. He was gifted in many directions. By nature essentially a gentleman, he possessed a courtly bearing, while retaining many of the characteristics which the *litterati* of Edinburgh at the end of the eighteenth and beginning of this century were celebrated for. One writer well said of him when he was at his best:—"He is a medical man, accomplished all round; trained first as a surgeon, afterwards as a family physician, and now a consultant and lecturer on clinical medicine; a medical jurist, teaching the lawyer medicine and the physician law; an expert in chemistry and toxicology; a skilled analyst, good alike for an opinion in applied science or in a trial for murder; one of the calmest, shrewdest, and most self-respecting witnesses that ever stood in a witness-box; a musician—few purer tenors have ever sung; a poet, an Archer of the Bodyguard, a fisherman, a shot, a telling speaker for a good cause, and a faithful friend. He is not one man, but a battalion." For his *confrères* in literary and medical circles he was wont to write humorous songs—some in English, some in Latin—which were collected in 1850, and published in book-form under the title of "Nugæ Canoræ Medicæ," the most celebrated of these being "The Battle o' Glen Tilt" and "Alma Mater." The latter was in Latin, and was set to music by Sir Herbert Oakeley. Professor MacLagan was an ardent archer, and at one time was surgeon-general in the Royal Company of Archers, which is the Queen's bodyguard in Scotland. He was made a Knight Bachelor by the Queen in 1886, and in 1893 retired after sixty-three years of active professional life. He had immediately before that severed his connection with the Privy Council. As a visitor to the pharmaceutical examinations, Sir Douglas MacLagan always showed special interest in chemistry, materia medica, and pharmacy, but he had an intimate acquaintance with each subject, and was not slow to detect a brilliant candidate, and would occasionally follow one throughout the whole examination, although the candidate might not know it. In the fifties and sixties he occasionally lectured before the North British Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society, and was accustomed to attend the annual dinners of the Branch.

The funeral took place on Monday at Dean Cemetery, Edinburgh, and was of a semi-public character. A service took place in St. Stephen's Parish Church, of which Sir Douglas was an office-bearer, and was attended by representatives of learned and public bodies, among whom were Professor Sir William Turner and Professor Crum Brown (representing the Royal Society of Edinburgh), Professor Sir William Gairdner (University of Glasgow), Mr. Peter Boa (representing the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain).

NORFOLK.—At Darlington, on March 27, Mr. Henry Norfolk, chemist and druggist. Aged 42.

REYNOLDS.—At Creif Lodge, Hyde Park, Leeds, on April 5, Mr. Richard Reynolds, F.I.C., F.C.S., pharmaceutical chemist. Aged 70. Mr. Reynolds had been in comparatively good health recently, but had to leave business on the Monday before his death feeling unwell, and he gradually

grew worse and died of cardiac failure on Thursday. Through the death of Mr. Reynolds Leeds has lost one of its most intelligent citizens, and the British Empire one of her most cultured pharmacists. As a lad he went from Banbury, in 1844, as an apprentice to Thos. Harvey, Leeds, after which he went for a session to the School of Pharmacy, London, in 1850–51, where he took the first prizes in chemistry, materia medica, and botany. That was the year in which Mr. T. B. Groves, Mr. Henry T. Watts, Dr. William Squire, and others were at the Square. From that time Mr. Reynolds's connection with the Pharmaceutical Society was of the most intimate character, for immediately after his



Square year he went for two years to Mr. Henry Deane, at Clapham. The Leeds business, to which he returned as partner, was taken over in 1816 by Mr. William West, F.R.S., but previous to that time a Mr. Matterson, who had been employed by Allen & Hanburys, had carried on the business. Mr. West, after twenty-five years' work at 13 Briggate gave up pharmacy to devote himself exclusively to analytical chemistry, and was one of the founders of the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, of which Mr. Reynolds was later, so devoted a member. Thomas Harvey then took over the Briggate concern—he had been trained at Southall's, in Birmingham; and Mr. Reynolds, after his year at the Square and his two years with Mr. Henry Deane, joined Mr. Harvey as a partner in 1854. The business, under his guidance, was carried on with remarkable success and many developments until 1883, when Mr. Frederick Branson joined him as a partner, and seven years later his son, Mr. Fred Reynolds, was also taken into the partnership, and the firm became a limited company a few years ago. Into Mr. Reynolds's public and social work in Leeds we cannot enter at this time, but it suffices to state that he was one of the town's most honoured citizens. His work in pharmaceutical research began when he was in Clapham, with an analysis of a specimen of native carbonate of soda, and this was followed at intervals by a number of papers chiefly on chemical subjects, although botany and natural science primarily were his especial delight. For example, it was he who suggested the Phytological Society, which met in Bloomsbury Square in the fifties with Professor Bentley as the leader, and such men as Henry Deane and Daniel Hanbury as active workers, Richard Reynolds being the Hon. Secretary. With everything that was for the furtherance of pharmacy in the best sense he was identified. He was one of the founders of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, and acted as an Hon. Secretary, in conjunction with Professor Attfield, from its foundation until 1871; and he acted as President in 1881, when the Conference met at York. He was an examiner to the Pharmaceutical Society in the days when the appointment was unremunerative, and he began what promised to be a distinguished career as a councillor in 1869, but this office he resigned in 1871, on account of a railway accident which severely injured him. He took an active part in opposing the Poisons Regulations in the latter year, and his influence had much to do with the defeat of the compulsory scheme. He renewed his opposition in 1898, but was content to allow a younger generation to judge for themselves, which was the characteristic of the man—broad-minded, liberal, sympathetic he always was, and strongest in force when he knew he was fighting for a good cause, even though it

might not be popular. He was the first Chairman of the Chemists' and Druggists' Trade Association of Great Britain, which was founded in 1876 as a defence association for chemists, who were at that time much harassed by the injudicious proceedings of public analysts. We may also recall the fact that it was he who got the Pharmaceutical Society to see how wrong it was to use methylated spirit for tinctures, with the result that the Board of Inland Revenue stopped the practice. One part of his work in Leeds it is impossible to pass over—viz., his connection with the Yorkshire College, in which he was at one time a teacher. A local writer thus admirably emphasises the part which he played:—

In 1870 the scheme was launched for the erection of the College. Lord Frederick Cavendish and Dr. Heaton worked long and strenuously to found such a College. Leeds and Yorkshire were slow to be moved, and after three or four years of effort the enterprise flagged. It was then that Reynolds came to the front. As hon. secretary he applied his cautious but indomitable mind to a task which others had failed to achieve. With this accession of strength the project at last began to look practicable. The funds were long hopelessly inadequate, as timid men used to say; but there were those who trusted the future, and steered a difficult course with never-failing sagacity. It is not too much to say that without Reynolds the Yorkshire College would not have come into existence when and where it did. How he sacrificed time and pleasure to this cause, few remain to tell. It was his daily and nightly care. Whether it was a question of finance, or of choosing professors, or of enlisting public men, his advice was always ready and always valued. He lived to see the great scheme realised, and it was one of the occupations of the very last year of his life to tell the history of those early struggles in the "Magazine" of the Yorkshire College. But the history as Reynolds told it wanted one leading figure, and the present writer warned him that a day would come when that deficiency must be made good. Some time or other it must be clearly shown what the Yorkshire College owes to its first hon. secretary.

It is not hard to understand that, with such work as this to do locally, Mr. Reynolds had little time for the wider interests of pharmacy; but, although of late years he had not figured much in the public affairs of the calling, his interest in them was unabated, and a commendatory note now and then to his journalist friends proved this. It may not be out of place to mention that he found much delight from the way in which his son, Mr. Fred Reynolds, took liberties with his person in the caricatures printed in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*. There are many in pharmacy who have lost an excellent friend in Mr. Reynolds. His funeral took place on Monday at the Friends' Burial-ground, Adel. It was attended by representatives of the many public bodies with which he was associated, and amongst the mourners were Mr. Fred Reynolds (son), Miss Reynolds, Mrs. Arthur Smee, and Miss Emmeline Reynolds (daughters); Mr. Freshfield Reynolds, Mr. N. H. Martin (Newcastle), Mr. F. W. Branson, Professor Hummell, and Professor Kendall. Mr. George Ward, Mr. Thomas Fairley, and Mr. W. McD. Mackey attended on behalf of the Society of Chemical Industry; Mr. E. Yewdall, Mr. G. W. Worsfold, and Mr. W. D. Pollett represented the Leeds Chemists' Association.

New Books.

Art of Feeding the Invalid; with Recipes for Preparation of Food for Invalids. 7½ × 4½. Pp. 272. 1s. 6d. (Scientific Press.)

Bayley, Thomas. *A Pocket-book for Chemists, Chemical Manufacturers, &c.* 7th edition. 5 × 3. Pp. 572. 5s. (Spon.)

Bell, R. *How to Fight Influenza and Allied Diseases.* 7½ × 5. Pp. 36. 1s. (Simpkin.)

Bitmead, R. *French Polishing and Enamelling.* 6½ × 4½. Pp. 124. 1s. 6d. (Lockwood.)

Brown, G. E. *Ferric and Heliographic Processes.* 7½ × 4½. Pp. 130. 2s. net. (Dawbarn.)

Chemical-manufacturers' Directory of England, Wales, Scotland, some Firms in Ireland, 1900. 2s. 6d. (Simpkin.)

Dieterich, Dr. Karl. *Analyse der Harze, Balsame, und Gummi-harze.* 7½ × 5. 8m. (Springer, Berlin.)

Hedley, W. S. *Therapeutic Electricity and Practical Muscle-testing.* 100 Illustrations. 8vo. 12s. 6d. (Philadelphia.)

The Council Contest.

AS mentioned last week our annual competition in regard to the Council Election of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain is now open and will continue until April 30. Will our subscribers and their assistants, or members of their families, please write on postcards the surnames of the seven candidates who they think will be returned as members of the Council? The candidates are:—

Bateson, Thomas, Kendal
Campkin, A. S., Cambridge
Cooper, Albert, Kensington
Cross, W. G., Shrewsbury
Currie, W. L., Glasgow
Gibbons, Walter, Manchester
Gifford, R. L., Blackburn
Gostling, G. J., Stowmarket
Grose, Nicholas M., Swansea

Hills, Walter, London
Morrison, J. W. T., Tring
Pickering, C. E., London
Storror, David, Kirkcaldy
Symes, Charles, Liverpool
Taylor, John, Bolton
Warren, William, London
Wootton, A. C., London

We shall give a guinea to the person who sends in the correct seven in the correct order, and in the event of equality we reserve the right to add to the guinea or to divide it as the circumstances of the case suggest.

CANDIDATES' VIEWS.

We have communicated with each of the seventeen candidates, asking them to favour us with an expression of their views for publication in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*. There may be some similarity in the replies, which doubtless arises from the wording of our request, as we remarked: "The present election is creating exceptional interest, and it would be instructive to your constituents to give publicity through our pages on pressing pharmaceutical topics, and of the desirability, or otherwise, for a more energetic policy on the part of the Council in regard to trade interests."

We extract the "views" of the candidates from the letters which they have sent to us in reply.

Mr. Thomas Bateson makes no Special Appeal.

In a courteous letter Mr. Bateson states that he is not prepared to make any special appeal for re-election. He adds:

"My views, with those of my fellow-councillors who are in the list of nominations, will doubtless be known to all who are interested in the forthcoming election."

It is not our business to formulate Mr. Bateson's views from the Council speeches which he has made. He voted with Mr. Hills for keeping consideration of the company question open on Clause 2. He is a pharmaceutical chemist, in business at Kendal—a hearty North countryman, whose face alone may stand for an election address. This portrait is one which has been specially taken for reproduction in our pages.



Mr. Campkin Wants a New Pharmacy Act.

As regards a general policy my views have been expressed frequently and recently in your columns and elsewhere. I feel I need hardly trouble you with details. The all-absorbing topic, however, is one upon which chemists as a body should speak and act in no uncertain way, and with united voice, vote, and influence, for if Clause 2 of the Companies Amendment Acts, 1900, now before the House of Commons, is carried, the whole principle of the Pharmacy Act of 1868 will be undermined, and an injustice created which can never have been contemplated either by the framers of that Act or the Legislature, and seriously affect the

position of all registered and qualified chemists. The character of the literature with which members of the Houses of Parliament and the country is flooded by those representing unqualified company-pharmacies only shows too clearly the intention of those who are responsible for the production of Clause 2, which, in my opinion, should never have been inserted in a financial Bill. Every effort should be made to secure the rejection of the clause, with a view to the promotion of such legislation in the next Session of Parliament as shall be calculated to secure the specific object for which the Act of 1868 was passed—to protect chemists' titles and place them in the same position as other professions—which they are entitled to claim in return for the *personal* qualification and *personal* responsibility imposed upon them by Act of Parliament, and it should be clearly established that an offence under Section 15 of the Act committed by an individual shall be equally an offence if committed by a company, as appears not now to be the case.

If it were possible to bring the Society and its Council more directly in touch with the whole body of registered chemists by a comprehensive policy showing direct sympathy with trade interests, a greater unanimity might be secured in any proposals for legislation than has hitherto been the case. In my opinion a large number of provincial chemists especially are still apathetic as regards the Pharmaceutical Society, and until complete unity is secured financial interests of limited companies will continue to exercise a baneful influence, which can only be met by concerted and united action. I have been asked by friends in various parts to again allow my name to be submitted, and, residing within an easy distance of town, it would be my endeavour, if elected, not only to attend meetings of the Council with regularity, but also such committees upon which I might be called to serve, and having had upwards of twenty-five years' experience in public bodies not confined to my own locality, I believe I should be able to discharge both executive and administrative duties satisfactorily.

Mr. Cooper for Titles, Research, Reciprocity, and an Effective Act.

Mr. Albert Cooper, of South Kensington, has frequently been nominated for the Council, but this is the first time he has accepted. He writes:—

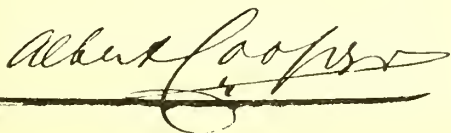
"I consider that this is an opportune moment for securing legislation relating to company-pharmacy. Something more should be done than merely to oppose Clause 2 of the Companies Bill, for if it is deleted our position remains unaltered. Now that the question is before Parliament we should strain every nerve to secure titles for the qualified individual. I am in favour of the division of the Minor examination, provided no qualification is given until the whole of the examination has been passed.

I am strongly of opinion that the Research Laboratory has not been used to the best advantage, and I should earnestly support any endeavour to secure that the investigations carried out there may be of more distinct pharmaceutical interest than has formerly been the case.

The question of reciprocity with the colonies in relation to the qualifying examinations has recently received prominence. Whilst aware of the difficulties in enforcing a definite standard for all parts of the empire, I am convinced that our own qualified men would benefit from reciprocity. I should therefore be prepared to seize this, the most favourable of opportunities when the Mother Country and her colonies are so closely drawn together, to obtain powers to reciprocate in any or all cases where it may ultimately be found desirable.

Whilst anxious to secure fresh legislation, I believe much can still be done by more thoroughly enforcing all the provisions of the present Pharmacy Act. A faulty system of registration makes the Act in many cases a dead letter, and I therefore urge the immediate consideration of this registration question.

That I am specially in sympathy with attempts to improve our position as traders is, I hope, shown by the part which it has been my privilege to take in connection with the P.A.T.A. (which is now in its fifth year). I have been a member of the committee since its inception, and have the honour to be the first chairman of the Chemists' Defence Association. From my connection with these organisations I have learnt much as to the particular needs and difficulties of chemists in businesses of the various kinds met with throughout the United Kingdom, and I hope that the experience I have so gained will, if I am elected, prove useful to me as a member of the Pharmaceutical Council. As a London candidate I should be readily available for any committee work.



Mr. Currie, of Glasgow, Stands as a Representative of British Pharmacists.

As a candidate for the coming Council election I desire to state as clearly and concisely as possible what my views are.

1. That which bulks most largely before pharmacists at the present time is "Clause 2" of the Companies Bill now before the House of Commons. I may say straight away that I oppose that clause as it stands for two reasons: (1) It proposes to do away with titles and privileges conferred by the 1868 Act—this being a distinct breach of faith which even the Legislature must not be allowed to perpetrate. (2) The Companies Bill is not the place to insert a clause bearing on pharmaceutical legislation. We want legislation badly enough, but we want something that will go a long way further than such a clause can give: we require an amended Pharmacy Act—what we should have had twenty years ago.

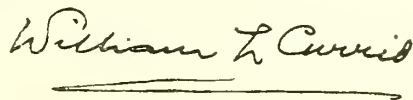
2. There is much in the present state of affairs which calls for improvement. I have long been of opinion that the Society through its Council has been too limited in its endeavours to cement the rank-and-file in one common bond. There has been great want of unity among its members. The Society should be more than merely an examining and administrative body. It should look after those who pass its examinations, conserving and representing trade interests which it at present ignores.

3. I am in favour of some suitable division of the qualifying examination.

4. I am of opinion that chemists should be exempt from jury-service, as the safety of the public can only be assured by the constant attention of qualified men in their places of business.

5. I also think the financial affairs of the Society require careful looking into.

In conclusion, I desire to say that I do not put myself forward as a *Scotch* pharmacist, but as representing British pharmacists, and can lay claim to having a fairly wide knowledge of pharmaceutical affairs.



Mr. Gibbons Says the Society should Deal with the Commercial Side of our Calling.

Although I do not believe in members of our Council taking the position of simple delegates, still, I consider that candidates should clearly state their views. The Pharmaceutical Society, whilst being primarily a legislative, governmental, and educational body, should also deal with the commercial side of our calling, and there is nothing in our Act to prevent the formation of a committee for that purpose. A form of trade-unionism exists in most callings, and this committee could introduce one into our body. If such a one had existed, our present difficulties could have been met. The Medical and the Law Societies are nothing but trade-unions, and are even protected by special Acts of Parliament. To meet the difficulties of legislation, increased activity must be shown, and a special fund formed to defray the expenses of obtaining two seats in Parliament for pharmacists. I am a strong supporter of advanced education in pharmacy, and would abolish the Minor examination as a qualifying one, for I consider that two qualifications, as at present, are against our interests in every way. In offering myself for election, I may say that I have plenty of time to give to the work, and the large political experience I have had, and the influence gained thereby, I shall, if elected, be prepared to devote to the interests of the members of the Society.

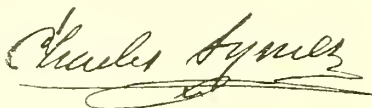
Mr. J. W. T. Morrison is a Free-lance.

Mr. Morrison is a chemist and druggist in business at Tring, in Herts. He was thirteenth on the list last year with 465 votes. He writes:—

Having been induced to again offer myself as a candidate for the Council, I do so as a free-lance, desiring to act for the trade-interests of individual members (of whom I am one). I am in business as an ordinary pharmacist, and by personal experience know the trials and troubles of the everyday chemist. I am unconnected with any wealthy establishment, as many of the present Council are, who, by virtue of their good fortune, have not the remotest idea of the average chemist's position, and consequently must be absolutely ignorant of the practical interests of the rank and file of the trade. I am obliged to those members who so kindly supported me last year, and trust they will do so this, inducing their friends to vote for a candidate who will ever study their most vital interests as his own.

Dr. Charles Symes makes no Promises.

In offering myself for re-election on the Council, I do not propound any special line of action, or promise any special reforms, because it is my experience that those who do so rarely accomplish what they undertake. I have always been an advocate of reasonable and possible reforms from the early days of my councillorship, when I moved the resolution which admits reporters to the Council proceedings, down to the present time. I am aware that there is just now an exceptional contest for seats on the Council, and if the electorate should decide that less experience and more sentiment are likely to acquire more substantial good for pharmacy, then, in accepting such decision, I shall, as a business man, hope to share these benefits.



Mr. John Taylor Speaks for Provincial Pharmacy.

After referring to his address on current pharmaceutical topics, which was printed in the *C. & D.* of February 17, Mr. Taylor (who is in business at Bolton) says:—

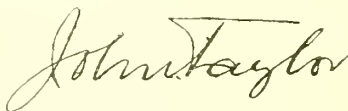
When asked to stand for the Council my first thought was, with Mr. Reid, that I could, perhaps, do as much or more for the trade in a position "of greater freedom and less responsibility than a councillorship permits." But there is a consideration that weighed heavily with me. This: that without a seat on the Council one cannot get that first-hand acquaintance with the ways of Bloomsbury Square which I think is desirable for those who seek to shape in any way the policy and future of our trade. Until a man has experienced the responsibilities and opportunities of office, he cannot gauge what is and what is not possible to effective administration and policy. To gain this acquaintance, and in the hope that I might be of service to my fellow-craftsmen, I resolved to stand. That point settled, other and personal considerations which would have led me to decline were put aside.

I have not seen any cause to change my mind on the wisdom of opposing Clause 2. I think there is little chance satisfactorily to amend it. It may be true that if this opportunity of amendment is let slip we may for a long time lose the chance of legislating on the question. I think such a lapse of time would not be entirely wasted.

The Society and Council have for a long time been out of touch with provincial pharmacists. They have not—at least, not always—made the most and best use of the Pharmacy Act. The commercial side of pharmacy has been entirely ignored. To bring the Society into touch with the full ranks of pharmacy, to utilise the Pharmacy Acts, as well for the trade as in the interests of the public, and to throw all the weight of an organised trade into the scale when commercial interests are in question, is the duty of the Council at all times.

In working for such ends there is no need to neglect the education of pharmacists, or to lower the standard of examinations. I would guard very jealously the traditions and practice of the Society in this respect.

It is possible that even a fairly strong infusion of new blood will be unable to effect an immediate change in the policy of the Council; but if I am elected it will always be my aim to make it subserve the interests of the whole trade.



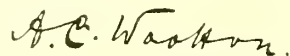
Mr. A. C. Wootton would Deal with Clause 2 first.

Writing from Barrymore, North Finchley, Mr. Wootton (who, like Mr. Cooper, has accepted nomination for the first time) says:—

My principal reason for accepting the position of a candidate for the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society to which I was nominated is that I believe it to be particularly desirable just now that there should be some change in the personal constitution of that Council. The election of a few new candidates would give an opportunity for one more attempt to focus the undoubtedly great influence which the Pharmaceutical Society can exert on the important clause in the Companies Bill affecting company-pharmacy. It is, to my mind, calamitous that, with such an opportunity before them as the Lord Chancellor had provided—first in his Pharmacy Bill and afterwards in the Companies Bill—the Council should have exhibited, corporately, only a policy of irresolution and pusillanimity. The Lord Chancellor, no doubt,

desires to effect a reasonable settlement of a troublesome legal anomaly. I do not think his proposal is an equitable one; but, however that may be, it seems childish policy to merely blankly oppose it without even trying to improve it. Is it certain that the Lord Chancellor would not interchange views with the authorised representatives of a class for whom he is legislating? The Council should, in my judgment, look at all the surroundings of the problem fairly, decide on what is reasonable to ask for, submit their claims to the Government temperately and respectfully, and, if these are definitely refused, fight for them with all the energy which can be aroused and organised.

In reply to your specific question whether a more energetic policy in regard to trade interests is desirable, I do not think the Pharmaceutical Society, entrusted as it is with statutory functions of great importance, could assume the position of a trade-union. But I believe it might promote trade interests in Parliament more often than it has done; and there certainly have been opportunities for intervention in the Law Courts, and in other directions, wherein the Society could have rendered great service to the trade.



We find our space so short this week that we are compelled to hold over a number of letters from candidates until our next issue.

A Forward Party.

At a meeting of voters, held at the Inns of Court Hotel on Monday, it was agreed to recommend the electors to vote for the following new candidates:—Messrs. Alfred Cooper, Walter Gibbons, John Taylor, and A. C. Wootton. We presume that the reasons why will be forthcoming, but meanwhile refer those interested to the individual statements of these gentlemen.

Trade-Marks Applied For.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," March 14, 1900.)

(Correction.)

"MADONNA"; for eau-de-Cologne. By Johann M. Farina Friesenplatz, Cologne. 228,004.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," March 21, 1900.)

"VINDAYT"; for medicated vinegar and acids and perfumery. By S. Gulliver & Co. (Limited), 7 Argyll Street, Oxford Circus, London. 228,995, 228,996.

"CITRONA" (no claim for "Citron"); for non-alcoholic flavouring-essence. By the London Essence Company, 113 George Street, Camberwell, S.E. 226,730.

"LEMCO"; for food-substances. By Liebig's Extract of Meat Company (Limited), 9 Fenchurch Avenue, E.C. 228,951.

"LEMONA" (no claim for "Lemon"); for a toilet-preparation. By J. B. Esden, 313 Finchley Road, N.W. 227,834.

"GARDEN-PARTY BOUQUET" (the essential particulars are the words "Garden Party"); for perfumery. By Lecaron & Fils, 6 Avenue de l'Opera Paris. 228,012.

"GOLDEN PALM" and "SILVER PALM"; for perfumery and toilet articles. By Raines & Co., 24 Prince Regent Street, Stockton-on-Tees. 228,045, 228,046.

"CHERROLENE" (no claim for "Cherry"); for a teeth-preparation. By Geo. Waugh, 9 Oliver Place, Hawick. 228,215.

"HIGH-LEVEL" and device of bridge (the essential particular is the device); for perfumery. By Geo. Watson, 1 Forth Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 228,711.

"KHARKI"; for perfumery and toilet-soap. By W. Anderson, 62 Buchanan Street, Glasgow. 228,755.

"BINSOLITH"; for artificial and natural pumice-stone. By A. & M. Zimmerman, 9 and 10 St. Mary-at-Hill, E.C. 229,064.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," March 23, 1900.)

"SOLIDOGEN" (no claim for "Solido"); for chemical substances. By Meister, Lucius & Brünig, Hoechst a Main, Germany. 228,816.

"CARTEL"; for chemical substances. By J. J. Griffin & Sons (Limited), 20-26 Sardinia Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C. 229,189.

War Notes.

TRANSVAAL AND O.F.S. SUBSCRIBERS.—Any subscribers of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST whose places of business were in the Transvaal and Orange Free State, and who have not received their copies since the war broke out, are requested to send their names and addresses to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. We have reserved their copies of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST and copies of the DIARY, and these we shall send to them as soon as they inform us of their addresses. This note also applies to subscribers in beleaguered towns in other parts of South Africa whose supply of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST has been stopped by the Post Office owing to the war.

A GOOD MEDICINE-HAUL.—A private, describing the relief of Ladysmith, says the Boers left behind them 100 sacks of flour, their field bakehouse, and 3,000% worth of medicine.

THE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' FAMILIES ASSOCIATION (East Scottish Branch) is doing good work, and we notice that, amongst others, the employés of Messrs. Raimés, Clark & Co., of Edinburgh, have contributed 8*l.* 8*s.* to its fund.

OUR DISPENSER-CORRESPONDENT continues his narrative from the day of Cronje's capture, and the following is an interesting account of subsequent events at the hospital camp:—

Paardeberg, O.F.S.,
March 6, 1900.

I have just received the *C. & D.*, dated January 20, for which I am extremely obliged. My last note gave my experiences up to February 27. On that day everything was quiet—what a change after the din of the firing of the big guns and rifle-fusillades! A large number of wounded had their wounds redressed, but there were no fresh cases. The news soon spread throughout the camp that Cronje had surrendered with 4,000 of his men, and this raised our spirits to boiling point. In the afternoon each man was served with 1 lb. of meal, captured at the Boer laager; another luxury was given, each man receiving a trace of marmalade. This was a luxury, as we were still on three-quarter rations. The following day a large number of sick cases came in, chiefly of diarrhoea and rheumatism; personally, I think there are several cases of "loafertitis," as the soldiers term it. After passing the one medical officer, an orderly finds places for them in the tents; certain cases are treated with Liebig, and also condensed milk, each tin making 6 pints, the other cases have their rations brought over from their regiments. A rather interesting case was one of the Norfolks, who had smashed the plate of his set of false teeth. Mr. Bennet Burleigh, the war-correspondent, paid our commanding-officer a visit on Thursday, March 1, bringing the news of the relief of Ladysmith. The following morning on parade the men received the congratulations of the Queen, Prince of Wales, Duke of Connaught, and also the Secretary for War, on the magnificent achievement which our troops accomplished after the long trying marches. Before sunset three of us went to see the Boer trenches by the banks of the Modder, amidst trees; the first thing which struck us was their depth—many were about 4 feet deep; the trenches were not continuous: several of them had sufficient room for a couple of men and the longer ones were divided into compartments by sandbags, so that the bursting of a shell would not cause as much destruction as in the case of our trenches. A large amount of old clothing was strewn about everywhere, and the stench in the neighbourhood was rather obnoxious. Darkness suddenly came on us and a storm arose; on returning we were stopped by one of the pickets of the Seaforth Highlanders; on giving the password "Lincoln" he allowed us to go on. Guided by a camp-fire we crossed the Modder, which was in flood, by a plank bridge—a rather shaky concern. After crossing the river we were guided by the flashes of lightning shining on our tents in the distance. The following day (Saturday) I walked over to the spot where the men of our brigade that were killed in action were buried: there side by side the remains of the brave fellows lay, with a wooden cross with the name and regiment overhead inscribed in pencil. In the evening we received orders to arrange the surgery-tent, as Communion Service would be held the following morning at 7 o'clock. We, accordingly, arranged the tent, using four medicine-panniers and a board with a white cover over it as Communion-table. After breakfast another compounder and I were sent with a water-cart for an extra supply of drugs which had been brought up to another hospital which was stationed about three miles away. On the Sunday night there was a heavy rainfall, which

simply poured through our tents, flooding the whole camp. I utilised a couple of surgical panniers as a bed; it was rather hard but it kept me out of the pools of water in the tents. As I write, a snake 4 feet 6 inches long has been killed in camp.

ANOTHER martial dispenser has found time to take some snap-shots in the intervals of hospital-duty, and sends us an illustrated news-letter as follows:—

R.A.M.C., Modder River,
February 15.

The train-journey up was very much better than we expected. We came nearly all the way in a second-class corridor with patent folding-beds, and of course slept in the train. We got our meal-tickets before we started, and really lived well. We think of it now when we have to squat on the ground and eat tough meat out of our mess-tins. There is a want of management in the distri-



THE PHARMACY CAR AND THE PHARMACISTS AT DE AAR.

bution of the luxuries sent out. In a camp just behind us, the Northumberland Fusiliers have as much tobacco as they can consume; in ours, if it had not been for a private getting some from one of the Northumberlands, we should not even have had a smoke. We hope, however, to join our "unit," as it is called, very soon. The news when we got here was that General Roberts had gone out with 30,000 men due west to attempt Jacobsdal, and so weaken Magersfontein. General French went east to divide their attention, and here we kept up a pretty continuous fire on Magersfontein, a very long and high kopje. It is about six miles away, but the country between is almost dead flat. We can see their guns at work, and of course our own, which are in advance of us, we hear only too plainly. You first see a flash from a Boer gun and then one from ours. You watch and can see our shells



THE SICK AND WOUNDED IN THE SQUARE AT JACOBSDAL
EN ROUTE TO MODDER RIVER.

burst right over the Boer positions. A description of this place is a little difficult, as everything for miles round is monotonously similar. The camp is as nearly as I can guess about five miles in extent. The ground is hot, burning, deep, red sand, and here it is only broken by the Modder River. It is very difficult to walk on. I have taken photographs of the camp and the surroundings. We have had a sandstorm to-day. Without warning the wind rose and with it the sand, and in a moment you could not see a yard. The sand finds its way into everything, and in ten minutes the insides of tents and hospitals are as a London fog. The storms usually last two or three hours, and then the brilliant sunlight

and unclouded sky are seen again. All transport here is done by teams of oxen or mules, as many as twenty being commonly used at a time, and driven by black men, Kaffirs or Malays. I saw



THE GRAVE OF COLONEL DOWNMAN (OF THE GORDON HIGHLANDERS) AT MODDER RIVER.

Colonel Downman's grave to-day, and took a photograph of it. He, with thirty or forty others, are buried about a mile north of the Modder.

Jacobsdal, February 28.

A week ago we were ordered up here, and to our joy found our field-hospital. We are much better off now. I have been made lance-corporal, and as such have privileges. The other two dispensers in our hospital have also been promoted, but in other hospitals and bearer-companies the dispensers are still privates. We three occupy a large tent about 28 feet by 18 square. This is surgery, operating-tent, and sanctum all in one, but is very comfortable. Our hospital has been here since this place was taken by Roberts, and all the wounded from Klip Drift have passed, and about 1,000 counting sick as well. They usually stay twenty-four hours, and so you may imagine our work is cut out to attend to them. The convoys on which they come are all drawn by oxen teams, and the waggons springless four-wheeled carts. This is a pretty little place—little or no sand, plenty of water, and is mainly inhabited by Germans. There is a German Red Cross Society here, and they do good work. The churches are filled with Boer wounded, and every house contains its share. Dysentery and ague are the commonest complaints. We seem to have left the zone of enteric fever. I have been up to now in splendid health. The fighting front is about thirty miles from here, and we hold ourselves in readiness to be away at any moment. The men are a curious sight—nearly all growing beards, and at the early stages looking far from beautiful. There are few shops and their stock is very limited; as much as 2s. 6d. has been given for a packet of cigarettes, cost in Great Britain 2d. Bread we have not had for a week, but they do not stint us biscuits, and occasionally serve out $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. jam per man per three or four days. We expect to move to the front to-night, and have just heard definitely that Ladysmith has been relieved.

COLMAN'S MUSTARD IN THE TRENCHES.—In the Boer trenches, immediately after the trek from Magersfontein, the senior chaplain (the Rev. E. P. Lowry) writes he found tons of stale biltong. English mustard was there—"good old English, with the famous bull's head on the tin," Colman's mustard—and every kind of dainty luxury from England that could be supplied in tins.

MR. M. THANE, chemist, of Dutoitspan Road, Kimberley, writes us by this mail:—"Although we have been through a long and trying ordeal, I am glad to say we are very little the worse for it now, and as food supplies and drugs are arriving in Kimberley we shall soon be fairly comfortable again. There are comparatively very few buildings seriously damaged, when the number of shells with which we were bombarded is taken into account."

Personalities.

MR. C. G. DEAN, chemist and druggist, has been elected a member of the Chesham Urban District Council.

MR. BENJAMIN CROWTHER, JUN., manufacturing chemist, Birkenshaw, has been elected a member of the District Council.

MR. J. S. MILLS (Mills & Baxter, chemists and aerated-water manufacturers) has been returned to Bourne Urban District Council.

MR. T. P. GOSTLING, of Diss, informs us that he ceased to be a member of the firm of Gostling & Co., chemists, Diss, about seven years ago, and his appointment as one of the overseers of the poor of the parish is a re-election.

WE regret to hear that Mr. William Martindale, the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, has been compelled by the state of his health to take another sea-voyage. He has been ordered out to Durban, and it is not expected that he will be back in time for the annual meeting of the Society.

MR. R. W. CARTER, JUN., son of Mr. Carter, of Maw, Son & Thompson's, who has for some time been with Messrs. Thom, Domeier & Co. (Limited), starts as soon as the Easter holidays are over to travel for Messrs. Robinson & Sons, Chesterfield, the well-known manufacturers of boxes and surgical dressings. Mr. Carter will cover some towns in the north as far as Shields, as well as some on the South Coast.

MR. HENRY FRASER, pharmaceutical chemist, Pereira medalist, a prize-winner in the *C. & D. Students' Corner*, and formerly teacher in the School of Pharmacy, Gordon's College, Aberdeen, is "one of the most distinguished medical graduates that have ever come out of Aberdeen University," says a local journal. He has concluded his curriculum by passing the Final examination with distinction, and was awarded the John Murray scholarship gold medal as being the most distinguished graduate of the year. We have previously alluded to Mr. Fraser's brilliant record, which is summed up in six gold medals, six ordinary medals, and six prizes, not to mention the M.B., C.M., which has now been conferred upon him. Our portrait is reproduced from the local journal.



MR. H. FRASER.

THIS is a *Newcastle Guardian* "weekly portrait" of Mr. David Hunter Oxen, chemist and druggist, Newcastle-under-Lyme. Mr. Oxen served his apprenticeship at Tynemouth, studied at the Manchester College of Pharmacy, passed the Minor in 1885, and after five years in Manchester as a manager started in business at Newcastle-under-Lyme in 1890. He has branches at Stoke and Hanley, and is opening another at Fenton. His business is Oxen & Co. (Limited). Mr. Oxen has been a member of the Local Town Council, is a Mason, Oddfellow, Conservative, and reciter. In the last capacity he has made "splendid additions to the local war fund" through his rendering of the "Absent-minded Beggar."



MR. D. H. OXEN.

THE exports of kauri gum from New Zealand in 1899 amounted to 608,000Z., against 587,000Z. in 1898, 398,000Z. in 1897, and 431,000Z. in 1896.

RUSSIAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY.—In the year 1877 the value of chemicals produced in Russia amounted to 10,000,000 roubles (about 625,000Z.), and in 1897 it had increased to 59,000,000 roubles (3,687,500Z.).

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

BOOTS, CASH CHEMISTS, have ventured on a bold campaign in their action against the Print-sellers' Association. The defending firms asked their associates to refuse to deal with firms who supplied Messrs. Boots and other cutters. Boots, Cash Chemists (Laneashire), Limited, say this is a conspiracy to prevent them carrying on business at a profit. If Boots win this case, they would most likely follow up their victory by an attack on the P.A.T.A., which in that eventuality might as well surrender at once, for it is scarcely possible to discriminate between the conspiracies. But Boots have not won the case yet, and, while it would be improper to anticipate the judgment, it may be of some interest to recall the details of the leading cases in which the law concerning such so-called conspiracies has been laid down.

* * * *

THE "MOGUL" STEAMSHIP CASE, finally decided by the House of Lords in 1892, was for some years the acknowledged exposition of the mind of the Judges in regard to trade-combinations of the kind of which Messrs. Boots complain. Certain shipowners engaged in the China trade associated themselves, and offered specially favourable terms to merchants who would ship by their vessels exclusively. The consequence of this combination was that the owners of the *Mogul*, who were not in the association, found themselves seriously hampered in their business, and they asked the Courts to declare the combination an illegal conspiracy. After varying fortunes the ultimate verdict was that the association being formed for the benefit of the respondents, and not with any desire to injure the *Mogul* company, or from any ill-will to them, was not illegal, and that an action for conspiracy against the associated firms would not lie. It should be noticed that the absence of any malicious intention towards the plaintiffs was an essential condition of the judgment in favour of the defendants.

* * * *

THE CASE OF ALLEN *v.* FLOOD, which came to a conclusion in 1898, went much farther than the *Mogul* case. Flood and another man were working shipwrights, who, having been apprenticed to their business in the North of England, had learnt to do both iron and wood work in their trade. This is not customary in London, and the Boiler-makers' Union—a very powerful trade-union with 40,000 members—resolved that they would not allow it. Allen was the acting official of this union. Flood and his mate were at work in a London shipyard on woodwork only, though they had previously been at ironwork in another shipyard, when Allen visited their employers and intimated that unless these two men were discharged the members of the union would come out. Under the influence of this intimation Flood and his mate were discharged. It was admitted that in discharging them no contract was broken. The action was brought in the name of Flood and another *v.* Allen, and it only became Allen *v.* Flood when Allen was the appellant and Flood the respondent. The House of Lords took immense trouble over this case, even calling on all the Judges to hear the arguments and to give them advice. Ultimately it was decided by a majority of the Law Lords that Allen and his confederates were lawfully entitled to leave their work if they chose, and that the Courts had no power to judge their motives for so doing. That, therefore, their combination was not illegal.

DR. ALFRED H. CARTER, the Professor of Medicine in Mason College, Birmingham, rendered a polite service to the pharmacists of that city when he lectured to them on "The Place of Drugs in the Treatment of Disease." I particularly notice his short list of the drugs which may be relied upon to cure certain diseases, and I am making a special note of these in my copy of "Diseases and Remedies," though hitherto I have not ventured to deal with malarial fever, stomatitis, or heart-disease. But what I am impelled to ask is, Why it should be polite and proper for Dr. Carter to give advice and assistance to druggists on the treatment of disease, and "highly objectionable" for less eminent, but quite competent, members of the same profession to provide similar information in a book?

* * * *

SEVEN OUT OF EIGHT OF THE CANDIDATES who fail at the First or Preliminary examination are rejected in arithmetic. Dr. Stevenson notes this as "a striking fact," and everyone will agree with him. It would be interesting to hear what educationalists themselves have to say concerning it, for this is a matter which general schoolmasters, and not teachers of pharmacy, are responsible for. Dr. Stevenson quite justly describes arithmetic as a "subject of supreme importance to the chemist and druggist." Certainly a miscalculation may have far more serious consequences than a misplaced comma or a fault in Latinity can have. I have looked through several recent First-examination papers and can find nothing in these fatal arithmetical questions to justify the schoolmaster. There must be something wrong either in the teaching or in the mental faculties of the taught. My experience in educational matters has not been great, but, such as it is, I have been long convinced of the curious fact that arithmetic is more efficiently taught in girls' schools than in those for boys. I believe it is the fact—which might be expected if my theory is true—that the proportion of girls who pass examinations is much larger than that of boys. Perhaps the system is better; but if it be that girls have better capacity for figures than boys, this is only another way of saying that they would make better chemists and druggists.

* * * *

THE EASIEST QUESTIONS in the arithmetical section are those which test the candidate's acquaintance with the metric system. There is nothing in that system which an intelligent youth should not be able to understand after one evening's study or demonstration. And yet I have heard that candidates fail with these questions more frequently than with any other. There is nothing in this fact to support Mr. O'Connor's notion that English chemists do not care to tackle French prescriptions unless they have a French assistant, for those young men who show inaptitude to grasp the simple principles of the metric system are among those who are ploughed, and who never become chemists and druggists. In this connection the remark may perhaps be permitted that every pharmacist, whether he has any foreign *clientèle* or not, and particularly every pharmacist who takes an apprentice, should certainly now furnish himself with a set of metric weights up to half a kilogramme and with certain metric measures. Seeing the actual things themselves will rob the system of its mystery, which is the bogey I suppose, that frightens Mr. O'Connor's young man and the candidates who break down at the metric questions.

THE exports of saltpetre from British India for the nine months ended December, 1899, were 280,627 cwt., against 278,652 cwt. for the corresponding period of 1898, and 322,236 cwt. for 1897.

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Editorial Comments.

Easter Education.

PARLIAMENT has taken three weeks' holiday, and has left the Companies Bill at the stage in which it has stood since it was introduced, but with the prospect that pharmaceutical interests in the measure, thanks to the energetic action of retail chemists throughout the country, have a better chance of attention than when Mr. Martindale turned his back upon the Board of Trade doors with Mr. Ritchie's negative ringing in his ears. There is still a disposition to regard that interview as final, and to treat the exclusion of Clause 2 from the Bill as sound business, especially as we are promised all we want in a Pharmacy Bill, and several of the Council candidates put that forward with the argument that a Company Bill is not the proper place in which to treat a pharmaceutical matter. This is a dangerous but

plausible argument. It is supposed to be shared by Mr. Ritchie, and that gives colour to its reasonableness. We counsel the trade not to forget that any legislation whatsoever in regard to pharmacy-companies will only modify, not stop, the present system of trading, and any modification which would bring these companies under the Pharmacy Acts would be equivalent to placing them on equality with registered individuals. Besides, the advocates of reform through the Pharmacy Act are essentially advocates for throwing overboard the present opportunity of having the company-question threshed out in Parliament—an opportunity for which the trade has been waiting for twenty years. It would be a grievous error in tactics to waste this opportunity, particularly on account of the fact that Parliament has during the past two months been partly educated in respect to the position of registered chemists and druggists. To stop this process now is to waste the advantage which has been gained, and it is more to the purpose to go on with it, and during the Easter recess every local body of chemists, and chemists as individuals, should endeavour to get a hearing from their parliamentary representatives. The issue is not complicated, for the divergence of opinion as to remedies for the company evil does not affect what the companies are doing—viz., using the titles which the law has reserved to individuals. That is the first, and to qualified persons the greatest, privilege conferred by the Pharmacy Act of 1868, and both for the present and the future it is of the highest importance to press upon members of Parliament the Lord Chancellor's statement "that a company ought not to do what a private person is prohibited from doing." The justice of this statement rests upon the fact that Parliament itself has defined the conditions upon which the title "chemist and druggist," or its equivalents, may be used by individuals, while the proposal to permit the use of the title by unqualified persons trading as companies is equivalent to condoning what the Legislature in 1868 defined as an offence against the law. Parliament's usual method in dealing with an oversight in drafting any of its measures which become law, when conditions arise in which the provisions are openly violated, is to take the earliest opportunity of amending the law to remedy the oversight. That is all that chemists and druggists ask in regard to their title. They wish to stop the use of company machinery for doing a thing in name only for which Parliament has provided the special machinery in the Pharmacy Act, and they ask no more on that point than the Lord Chancellor enunciated in the House of Lords last August. We again submit that the highest legal authority in the land considers that this can well be done in the Companies Bill, and that there is every reason why chemists and druggists should acquiesce in that view. There is general agreement in pharmacy upon this question of the title, that it should be reserved to individuals. The rest is nebulous, but the Council election is bringing this amorphous mass of opinion to the crystallising-point. Difference of opinion on directorship and assistant-supervision will be merged into the definite policy of seeking the best restriction possible on company-pharmacy. If this and the title cannot be got as amendments to Clause 2, we still do not think that the absolute negation of that clause would be good for the drug-trade, because the possibility of a Pharmacy Bill getting through Parliament is remote, and there is a better chance of getting a special committee appointed to inquire into this and other company-questions which affect the professions whose statutory existence and privileges are threatened, by people taking advantage of company machinery. This alternative to the negative proposal of the Pharmaceutical Council would best ensure what pharma-

cists, physicians, and others really want—a fair hearing; and it is a line of policy which would educate many members of Parliament who at present ask for independent instruction.

National Thirsts.

THE production and consumption of alcoholic beverages by the chief nations of the world have again been submitted to statistical tabulation by a department of the Board of Trade, and the tables have been printed by order of the House of Commons. The tables are preceded by a memorandum which deals principally with the four chief countries of the world—the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and the United States. The information from some of the other countries was too fragmentary to be treated comparatively along with these others. A separate review is given of particulars referring to the principal British colonies. The four countries dealt with are those which consume the largest amounts of alcoholic beverages; they are the richest in the world, and derive large revenues from the taxation of alcohol. The revenue from alcoholic beverages is, approximately, in the case of the United Kingdom, 33 per cent. of the total national revenue, France 19 per cent., Germany 18 per cent., and the United States 28 per cent., the figures being 12,831,000^l. in the case of Germany, up to 34,400,000^l. in the United Kingdom. The nature of the liquids which yield these enormous sums varies. Thus the consumption of wine is smallest in the United States, being a little less than 2 pints (0.23 gal.) per head of the population per annum. In the United Kingdom each person drinks 0.41 gal. of wine per year; Germany drinks 0.77 gal.; but each man, woman, and child in France gets rid of 24.64 gals. of wine per annum. The light wine-drinkers make up the deficiency in beer, 31.9 gals. per annum being the Britisher's supply, 27.1 gals. the German's, and 13.0 gals. the American's. In France the amount is only 5.5 gals. per head. Beer varies in the different countries in alcoholic strength, 3 and 6 per cent. of absolute alcohol being the limits. It is noticeable that the consumption of beer in the United Kingdom is increasing: it was 27.1 gals. in 1885, 29.7 in 1895, and 31.9 in 1898. Distilled spirits are the most important alcoholic drinks produced, by reason of the larger proportion of alcohol contained in them and their capacity for taxation. The amount of alcohol in drinks is the basis of taxation in each country, but the alcoholic strength varies so much that the returns have been brought to the basis of proof gallons at 50 per cent. of alcohol. Thus corrected, we find the amounts consumed in the United Kingdom 1.03 gal., France 2.07 gals., Germany 1.85 gal., and United States 0.92 gal. per head of the population. From this it would seem that the consumption of spirits in the United Kingdom and the United States is approximately the same, as also is it in France and Germany, but whether this is due to climatic or social conditions or is influenced by the duty on spirits is a moot point. A curious fact is noted in the memorandum that spirit stored in a dry place suffers loss of *bulk*, whereas if stored in a damp place there is loss of *strength*, and both are matters which have to be considered in the scale of allowances for loss. As regards our colonies, we find that the figures for Australasia show the average consumption in gallons per head of the population for the years 1896-7-8 to be wine, 1.05 gal.; beer, 10.6 gals.; spirits, 0.76 gal. In Canada the figures were: wine, 0.03 gal. beer, 3.6 gals. and spirits, 0.65 gal.; whilst in the Cape of Good Hope they were: beer, 1.6 gal., and spirits, 1.10 gal. It has not been possible to estimate the amount of wine consumed at the

Cape; 4,824,000 gals. was produced there in 1898, but it is believed that quite two-fifths of this was distilled into brandy.

A Mysterious Letter.

THE United States Patent Laws are well known to be an incubus to enlightened American pharmacists and physicians who grumble that in consequence of them some medicinal products of the synthetic type are sold in that country at much higher rates than in other countries. Phenacetin is one of the substances so protected, and occasionally druggists have been prosecuted either by the agents or makers of phenacetin or by the Customs authorities for smuggling the drug into the country. A great deal of that smuggling goes on. It is not an uncommon thing for the transatlantic steamers to take over small cargoes of the drug as passengers' luggage from Hamburg and other ports, and it pays the smugglers well. It is therefore somewhat surprising to find that a London firm of bankers has this week sent out the following letter to some London dealers in the drug:—

We are this morning in receipt of a cablegram from a correspondent in New York who does a large trade in phenacetin with the wholesale druggists of that city. He desires to know if we can procure for him one or more large buyers of phenacetin in London, and this request for information explains why we write you this letter.

We know that our correspondent in New York supplies the trade in that city with phenacetin at a considerable reduction from the regular wholesale price, and we also know that his article has given thorough satisfaction during the past year. In order to provide you with the advantages you can secure by handling the phenacetin of our New York correspondent, will you kindly inform us by return post the average amount of phenacetin which you handle monthly in your present trade, and the price at which you would be willing to place a trial order through us, and stating the quantity of such trial order? This trial-order will be received by us with the understanding that the goods shall prove satisfactory to the trade, and will be furnished to you at a liberal discount from the price you have heretofore been paying for phenacetin.

If your trial-order proves entirely satisfactory we will arrange to supply you in future with phenacetin at the same prices as paid by the New York trade. Although we do not know at the moment exactly what that price is, we will undertake to refund to you in case we ascertain that the price you are willing to pay exceeds the New York price. Under these circumstances and assurances we do not think you can find any reason for not favouring us with a trial-order, which we hope will only be preliminary to a large and profitable future trade in this drug.

In your reply, which we hope will be accompanied by a trial-order, will you kindly inform us what is the present standard wholesale price of phenacetin in London?

The enterprising gentlemen who have sent out this circular negotiate loans in a quiet two-roomed office not a hundred miles from Fenchurch Street, and they have at least the satisfaction of knowing that they have caused a mild sensation within a limited circle of chemical-dealers. Otherwise the phenacetin-market is lifeless.

A HEAVY WEEK OF DEATHS.

Rarely is it our sad duty to record such losses as we have had to do this week. The death of Sir Douglas Maclagan, of Edinburgh, may be considered as part of the pharmaceutical loss which we suffer through the deaths of Mr. Richard Reynolds, of Leeds, and Mr. Downes, of Dublin. Sir Douglas Maclagan had a more intimate acquaintance with pharmacy than is generally the case with men of reputation. Mr. Reynolds's work on behalf of the calling to which he was so earnestly devoted is not so well known to

the present generation as to his contemporaries in age, but his influence upon pharmaceutical leaders was not less important than his work appears on the surface. He was one of the small band of Friends who had the making of British pharmacy as it is to-day. In a note which we print elsewhere it is pointed out that Mr. Downes's work while he was President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland greatly influenced the Lord Chancellor in accepting the view in regard to companies and professions which he expounded in his speech in the House of Lords last August; and although Mr. Downes had since then been laid aside through physical weakness the influence of his opinions upon his Council remained, and pharmacy of the United Kingdom may yet reap the benefit of his strenuous advocacy of the individual pharmacist's position. Few men were so widely respected in the drug-trade of Ireland as he. To these losses we have to add the death of Mr. John Hugill (of Meggeson's), one of the oldest pharmaceutical chemists in Great Britain, and of Mr. John Blair, a respected pharmacist, whose name was well known in the South of Ireland.

THE RED CROSS.

Truth this week concludes the incident of the complaint against Mr. E. B. Kendall, chemist, York, by a colonel of the R.A.M.C. for using as a sign on his shop-door a red-cross as follows:—

Colonel Saunders, R.A.M.C., has just written me a reply to the remarks in *Truth* of the 22nd ult. on his passage-at-arms with a chemist at York anent the exhibition of a Geneva Cross on the chemist's doorpost. He incidentally tells me that he would be surprised at nothing which appeared in *Truth*, unless it were a statement containing the whole truth, after which, I think, he might at least have informed me in what respect I have stated less than the whole truth in this instance, but he makes no attempt to do so. On my side, seeing that the Colonel had expressed himself in gratuitously offensive terms when delivering his views to the chemist, I am not in the least surprised that he should adopt a similar tone in addressing himself to me. "It is not a matter," he says, "open to discussion at all." In that case, as I have already given the Colonel's views on the Red Cross at considerable length, and as his present communication adds nothing to them, it would be foolish to discuss it further.

We gave particulars of the incident in the *C. & D.*, March 24 page 509.

THE OLD ISSUE.

A writer on medical ethics in the *Physician and Surgeon* after dealing with the vexed questions of practice-purchase medical etiquette, the "squatter," and the lady-doctor in a more or less broad-minded fashion, concludes with his views on how doctors should conduct themselves as regards chemists. But here the inherent professional narrow-mindedness, which evidently is so hard to overcome, asserts itself. This is how we are disposed of:—

The two questions, whether doctors should dispense their own medicines on the one hand, and whether chemists should prescribe on the other, have been burning for years. Firstly, it is clear that chemists should be restrained from prescribing, because no qualification less than that which enables a man to register as being fit to engage in ordinary medical and surgical and obstetric practice can be recognised as sufficient to enable a man to understand diseases and conditions well enough to treat them properly and safely. Secondly, that medical practitioners should be allowed to dispense their medicines, if they wish, for two reasons:—(a) Because of convenience—chemists' shops not always being of a kind and not having a position suitable for all medical practitioners; and (b) because many medical practitioners have greater confidence in their own-made or own-stocked medicines.

In like manner surely we might argue that until doctors possess the necessary pharmaceutical qualifications they ought to be restrained from practising pharmacy. The "convenience" theory, except in remote country districts, will not bear investigation, and the fact that "many medical practitioners have greater confidence in their own-made (*sic!*) or own-stocked medicines" is no guarantee for the welfare of the community, which, after all, should be the principal consideration in every code of ethics.

THE BUBONIC PLAGUE.

This terrible scourge, which devastated London a few centuries ago, has again come very near to us owing to the fact that it has got a grip of three of the capitals of the British empire, Sydney being added to Bombay and Calcutta. Business in Bombay is almost ruined by the terror which prevails there, and we earnestly hope that Sydney may avert the most serious calamity. In this connection we are pleased to see that Messrs. Baillière, Tindall & Cox have this week published a translation, by Dr. W. Munro, of Dr. J. V. Montenegro's Spanish work on the bubonic plague. This work describes the course of the epidemic, the symptoms of the disease, and the means of prevention and treatment. It is generally supposed that bad sanitary arrangements are the cause of the spread of the disease. This may be the case to some extent, but it is undisputed that it is really propagated by rats and fleas. The plague is exactly the same in the rat as it is in man; the rodent is even more prone to take it than man, and as soon as rats are attacked they stop their usual cleanly habits so that fleas begin to accumulate upon them, and when death ensues the parasites transfer themselves to healthy rats and infect them with the blood which they have taken from the dead ones. The transference of the disease to man is obvious, and the mere touching of the dead rats is sufficient to convey infection. Rat-extermination is, therefore, one of the most important things to be done when the plague breaks out in any part, and we commend the study of this book to those who wish to get further particulars in regard to the matter. We may also note in this connection that an "extraordinary" number of the *Bombay Government Gazette* was issued on March 13 containing a notification regarding the plague in Bombay, including a report by the Commission on Mr. Haffkine's anti-plague inoculation. There is agreement in regard to the efficacy of the inoculation, but the Commission's experience is that it is seldom possible to get a large portion of the inhabitants of an uninfected place to undergo inoculation.

Scientific Progress.

Separating Silver and Mercurous Chloride.—M. F. Leteur, in the course of a paper read before the Paris Academy of Sciences, said it was not possible to extract the whole of the silver salt from a mixture of silver and mercurous chloride with aqueous ammonia, since when the silver chloride is small in proportion to the calomel nearly the whole of it is retained by the mercury amido-chloride formed even after repeated digestions with ammonia.

Cotarnine Derivatives.—A number of new derivatives of cotarnine have been prepared and described by Freund (*Berichte*, 1900, 380), of which the following are of especial interest:—Cyanocotarnine is prepared by acting on cotarnine with dilute prussic acid. It forms fine white prisms, melting at 95°, of the formula $C_{12}H_{14}NO_2CN$. This body forms a methyl-iodide compound, $C_{11}H_{17}N_2O_2I$, melting at 204°. Cotarnine sulphide is prepared by saturating a solution of cotarnine in alcohol with hydrogen sulphide. It forms crystals, melting at 146°, of the formula $C_{21}H_{23}N_2O_6S$.

Some New Remedies.—Bocconine is the name given to an alkaloid which Battindier has extracted from the plant *Bocconia patrescens*, which closely resembles fumarine in its properties. Cayaponine is the alkaloid isolated from one of the *Cucurbitaceae*, *Cayapona globulosa*. A body recently placed on the market under the name "cephaline" has been examined and found to bear no resemblance to the alkaloid cephaline. It is a mixture of antipyrin, caffeine, sodium salicylate, and roasted coffee. Chlorosonine is a new compound of chloral with hydroxylamine. It is a powerful hypnotic. Sidonal is a compound of piperazin with quinic acid. It is a powerful uric-acid solvent.

Nitrogen Derivatives of Caryophyllene.—In a paper by Kremers and Schreimer on this subject (*Pharm. Archives*, 1899, 2, 273), a number of nitro derivatives of this important sesquiterpene are described. The caryophyllene used for the experiments was sp. gr. 0.903 and refractive index 1.49976. The

finest hitherto described was sp. gr. 0.9085 and refractive index 1.5009, so that we cannot say whether the sample used in these experiments was really pure or not. The nitroso-chloride, the authors say, can be obtained in a crystalline condition by mixing the sesquiterpene, alcohol, ethyl acetate, and ethyl nitrite, cooling in a freezing-mixture, and adding alcoholic solution of hydrochloric acid. It melts, they state, at 158° C. But, as a matter of fact, this body has long been known in the crystalline condition, and has been described as melting at 162° C. The inference is that the older-described body was the purer. The nitrosite, $C_{15}H_{21}N_2O_3$, is described. This melts at 167° C., but, when exposed to sunlight in benzene solution, it yields a colourless substance melting at 113°–114°, and a second body melting at 146°–148° C.

The Standards of Purity of Sicilian Oils.—In a recent issue of the *Boll. Chim. Farm.* (xxxviii, 537) Soldaini and Berté have given a series of figures which they regard as necessary standards of purity of lemon, bergamot, and orange oils. There is nothing especially new in these figures, and the only reason that we draw attention to them is that they are open to criticism. For lemon oil they give the sp. gr. 0.854 to 0.860, limits which we think no one in this country would be willing to accept. The B.P. admits 0.857 to 0.860. For the rotatory power they give +56° to +66°. Here, although the B.P. makes +59° the lowest possible rotation, we may remark that genuine samples show a rotation of +57°. The citral-content is limited to 6.5 per cent. as a minimum. In view of papers which have appeared in this journal recently, this statement will hardly be accepted without reserve. On fractional distillation the half which comes over first should, according to the authors, give the same rotation as the original oil. This, again, is not always the case, and the difference in the rotations of the oil and of the first 10 per cent. distilled is a far more useful standard. For oil of bitter orange +96° and +98° are given as the rotation limits. But it is acknowledged that genuine bitter oil frequently has a rotation as low as +92°, and that sweet-orange oil is always more dextrorotatory, so that very many, if not the majority, of pure bitter oils would be excluded on these chemists' standards.

Medical Gleanings.

CINNAMON IN DIARRHŒA.

MR. NORRIS WILKINSON in a recent number of the *British Medical Journal* corroborates the observations of Dr. Henderson as to the use of cinnamon in all cases of diarrhœa. Powdered cinnamon is the form in which it is given, and the dose a teaspoonful, made into a bolus with milk, night and morning. The success of the treatment is probably due to the germicidal properties of the oil of cinnamon, so that the use of cinnamon-water as the diluent in diarrhœa-mixtures, which was doubtless at first empirical, seems justified scientifically.

CONSTIPATION IN WOMEN.

DR. BEDFORD FENWICK finds the following pill very useful for constipation in women:—

Ferri phosph....	...	...	gr. 2
Ext. belladonn.	...	...	gr. 4
Ext. nuc. vom.	...	...	gr. 4
Ext. cascar. sagrad....	...	...	gr. 2

M. Pro pil. j.

Ter die post cib. sumend.

The dose seems excessive, but the object of the pill is to establish healthy action of the bowels.

VOMITING OF PREGNANCY.

Potassii bromidi	...	...	3ij.
Liquoris strychnine	...	...	5ss.
Aque chloroformi	...	...	3iij.
Aque ad	...	...	3vi.

One-twelfth part to be taken in water three or four times a day.

—Dr. Neale in the "Lancet."

CHEMISTS' DEFENCE ASSOCIATION.—Mr. Albert Cooper presided at a meeting of North London chemists held at the Old Cock Tavern, Islington, on Wednesday afternoon, when Mr. Glyn Jones explained the objects of the Association, and, after speeches and questions by Messrs. Cooper, J. McKnight, Stephen Gaubert, F. Andrews, W. MacGeorge, and John Holding, a resolution wishing complete success to the scheme was passed.

Legal Reports.

High Court Cases.

SACCHARIN PATENTS.

ON April 6 Mr. Justice Buckley, sitting in the Chancery Division, delivered his reserved judgment in the case of the Saccharin Corporation (Limited) *v.* Anglo-Continental Chemical-works (Limited), which had been argued for several days. It was an action brought against the defendant company and Mr. Robert Reitmeyer, its manager, to restrain alleged infringement of Monet's patent for the production of toluol sulphonate in the manufacture of saccharin. The defendants denied infringement, and pleaded anticipation.

Mr. Fletcher Moulton, Q.C., M.P., Mr. Cripps, Q.C., M.P., Mr. Graham, and Mr. Colefax were counsel for the plaintiffs; Mr. R. Neville, Q.C., Mr. Wallace, Q.C., Lord Robert Cecil, Q.C., Mr. A. J. Walter, and Mr. Dawes Bucknill for the defendant company; and Mr. Mark Romer for the defendant Reitmeyer.

Mr. Justice Buckley said that auto-toluene sulpho-chloride was a coal-tar product. It was not saccharin; but its manufacture was a necessary step in the manufacture of saccharin according to the process with which he had to deal. The question of the validity of Monet's patent was before Mr. Justice North in December last in the action of the Saccharin Corporation (Limited) *v.* Chemical and Drugs Company (Limited). That case covered a large part of the field with which the present defendants invited him to deal. Mr. Justice North decided that the process described in Monet's specification was sufficient subject-matter for a patent, granted an injunction to restrain infringement, and certified for the validity of the patent. On the question of subject-matter he had simply to follow Mr. Justice North, and hold that there was sufficient subject-matter for the patent. He also found as a fact that Monet's specification sufficiently described and ascertained the invention. It was true that only about 93 per cent. of toluene was converted into chloride, but that was a substantial conversion. Also he found that the invention was useful, assisting in the production of a useful commercial product. It remained to determine novelty, as far as that was open after Mr. Justice North's decision, and anticipation. On the defence of anticipation fifteen papers, ranging from 1869 to 1887, had been specified, but four only were substantially relied upon. His Lordship then examined the specifications in question, observing that he found nothing in them to teach the world the invention for which Monet took out his patent in 1894, and the fact that until 1894 nobody made use of this knowledge was pretty good inference that the knowledge did not exist. Accordingly he must hold that the defendants had not made out their defence of anticipation, and that the patent was valid. Last, as to infringement. It was admitted that the saccharin imported into this country by the defendants was manufactured by Grandjean, Zimmermann & Co. and the Basle Chemical-works; and it appeared to his Lordship that both the company and Mr. Reitmeyer were responsible for any infringement there had been. The defendants said that the article imported and sold was saccharin; that Monet's process was one not for the manufacture of saccharin, but for auto-toluene sulpho-chloride; and consequently their counsel argued that there had been no infringement. But the article imported and sold was produced by subsequent chemical operations from the article made under the patented process. Auto-toluene sulpho-chloride was contained as such in saccharin. If the patented process was the last stage in the production of the article imported and sold, instead of an earlier stage, the product would be plainly an infringement; and did it make it less an infringement that the article sold was manufactured by use of the patented process in conjunction with other chemical processes? In his opinion it did not. If saccharin was permitted to be sold, in the manufacture of which the patented process was used, the patentee was denied some part of the profit of his invention, and the importer was in some degree making use of the invention. Accordingly this part of the defendants' case failed. It did not appear that the difference between 5½ hours' and 12 hours' standing of the mixture had much effect on the result. In

the matter of time, the foreign manufacturers of this saccharin did not seem to have observed the limits which the patentee had pointed out, nor in the process had they adopted the proportion of 4 to 1, nor precisely followed the instructions for temperature, but they had adopted the combination of the invention, and in so doing had, in his Lordship's opinion, infringed the plaintiffs' patent. In the result his judgment was that the defendants had been guilty of infringement of this patent, No. 25,273 of 1894, and an injunction must issue, the defendants to pay the costs of the action, and there would be an inquiry as to account.

On the application of Mr. Fletcher Moulton his Lordship certified that the breaches had been proved, but refused to grant costs against the defendants, as between solicitor and client, on the ground that the action was commenced before Mr. Justice North's judgment.

Execution was stayed pending notice of appeal.

CLARKE & Co. *v.* BEESON & Co.

IN the Chancery Division on April 6, Mr. Justice Byrne had before him a motion on behalf of the plaintiffs (soap-merchants in Holland) for an injunction to restrain the defendant, who was, or had been, their agent, from collecting moneys on their behalf for goods supplied. After considerable discussion, both parties assenting, his Lordship made an order for an account to be taken of all dealings by the defendants as agents for the plaintiffs, and other mutual accounts between them, and appointed plaintiffs' solicitor to act as receiver, without security, to get in outstanding accounts, without prejudice to any lien which the defendants might have, the receiver to be at liberty to sell the remaining stock of soap provided he did not sell below the invoice-price.

VIMBOS PROMOTION.

IN the Queen's Bench Division on April 5, the case of *Dudman v. Altman* and others was resumed and concluded. The Lord Chief Justice, in summing up, said what the law required was that the prospectus should not be fraudulent and misleading, and that it should not contain untrue statements of facts to induce persons to apply for shares. The plaintiff had to satisfy the jury not only that he believed the statements in the prospectus, but that he had reasonable grounds for doing so. It was for the defendants not only to satisfy the jury that they believed the statements to be true, but that they had reasonable grounds for so believing. In conclusion his Lordship left to the jury the following questions:—1. Did the plaintiff take shares on faith of the statements in the prospectus? 2. Did the defendants issue such prospectus? 3. Did such prospectus contain any statement untrue in fact—(a) in reference to the position and history of the Scotch company; (b) in reference to the majority of shareholders taking substantial interest in the new company; (c) in reference to the French contract? 4. If so, did the defendants or any and which of them issue such prospectus knowing or believing such statements or any of them were misleading and would be likely to mislead intending shareholders? 5. Or if such statements or any of them were in fact untrue, had the defendants or any of them and which of them reasonable grounds to believe and did they believe that such untrue statements were in fact true?

The jury were unable to agree, and after reconsidering the points the foreman, on again returning into court, handed to his Lordship a paper containing their answers.

The Lord Chief Justice said the answers to the first two questions were in the affirmative. The jury had altered the third question so that it read "Did such prospectus contain any misleading statement in reference to the position and history of the Scotch company?" and the answer was "Yes." Then in answer to the question whether the prospectus contained any misleading statement in reference to the majority of shareholders in the Scotch company taking substantial interest in the new company the jury disagreed. As to whether the prospectus contained any misleading statement in reference to the French contract the jury said "Yes." On the fourth question the jury were not agreed, and the answer to the fifth question was "Yes, as regards Morrison." The jury disagreeing were then discharged, his Lordship saying that any discussion on the case had better be postponed, and if there were a new trial it must be before another Judge.

Pharmacy Acts (Great Britain).

SELLING LAUDANUM.

AT Brompton County Court on April 5, the Pharmaceutical Society sought to recover 10*l.* from Mr. Gaskell, of Gaskell's Drug-stores, 161 Goldhawk Road, Shepherd's Bush, W., being the amount of two penalties for an alleged illegal sale of laudanum. Mr. Vaughan Williams, on behalf of the Society, explained that the preparation in question was scheduled as a poison which should not be sold by any person who was not a duly qualified chemist. It appeared that the defendant was not thus qualified, and having failed to comply with the requirements of the Pharmacy Act he was liable to penalties as above. He (the learned counsel) understood that the defendant (who did not appear) had paid the penalties into court. He accordingly asked for an order for payment of the money out of court, with full costs, including those of five witnesses and counsel's certificate. The order was granted, his Honour (Deputy-Judge Clement Lloyd) directing that payment should be made within a fortnight.

Pharmacy Acts (Ireland).

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland summoned Wm. James Gibson, 136 Sandy Row, Belfast, to the Summons Court in that city on Monday, April 9, to answer a charge of having, on March 22, sold to Mr. Theophilus Brush, an inspector of the Society, a medical prescription, he not being a person properly qualified by law to do so.

Mr. Joseph Donnelly, solicitor, appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Society, and Mr. Wm. Harper, solicitor, defended. Mr. Hodder, R.M., presided on the Bench.

When the case was called Mr. Harper applied for a short adjournment, as the person who it was alleged had compounded the prescription, and was a material witness, was at present in hospital suffering from the effects of a burning-accident, and, the defendant having deposed to this fact, his Worship adjourned the case for a month.

Employers' Liability Acts.

A CLAIM GRANTED.

AT the Dartford County Court last week the case was heard of Lucilla Card, Erith *v.* the Borax Consolidated Company, Belvedere. Plaintiffs' husband died in January from injuries received at the respondents' works. It was admitted that plaintiff had no claim because her husband was doing something he ought not to have been doing at the time of the accident. The company offered 95*l.*, and this it was agreed should be paid to plaintiff at the rate of 1*l.* per month, with 5*l.* for immediate expenses.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

CAMPHORATED OIL.

AS briefly reported last week, at the Lambeth Police Court on April 5, William B. Greig, trading as "Greig & Co.," Old Kent Road, was summoned for selling camphorated oil which was 43 per cent. deficient in camphor. Mr. Francis (Magistrate): What is the object of this adulteration? Is it to cheapen the article? Mr. Marsden (for the prosecution): Oh, yes, sir. The defendant said the olive oil was really the most expensive constituent. The cost of the camphor would be a little over $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.* in 5 oz. The deficiency was due to an oversight on the part of the assistant in making the article during the cold weather. He moved an oil-drum from the fire, it was assumed, before solution was effected, and a portion was drawn off, and a sample of that must have been taken. He quite repudiated any idea of fraud. With a reputation of twenty-five years it would be scarcely worth while. Mr. Francis: Do you suggest that you could call evidence to show that an adulteration of this nature could take place by means of an accident such as you describe? Defendant: If solution had not taken place, the camphor would be deficient. As this was wanted in a hurry, some was taken off, and hence the discrepancy. Mr. Francis: You call it a discrepancy. I call it an adulteration. Defendant: We regret the occurrence,

and ask your Worship, in imposing a penalty, to give us the benefit of these considerations. Mr. Francis: You must pay a fine of 5*l.* and 17*s.* 6*d.* costs.

LINSEED OIL.

AT the Aylesbury Petty Sessions ten days ago Mr. Fredk. Laurens, chemist and druggist, Missenden, was summoned for selling linseed oil which contained 40 per cent. of rosin oil. The facts were not disputed, and the only question which was gone into before the Bench was, Is linseed oil a drug? Dr. T. G. Parrott, a registered medical practitioner, said it was, for it was in the British Pharmacopoeia; he was not sure that it was in the 1898 edition, so a copy was brought and the fact ascertained. The Bench appeared to be satisfied that its presence in the B.P. made it a drug. Mr. Laurens explained that he sold the oil as he bought it from Messrs. S. Bowley & Son, Battersea Place, London, and he had received a letter from that firm stating that it was a mistake on the part of one of their clerks, and that they were willing to bear all expenses. It was the first time he had ever been placed in such a predicament, and that was through no fault of his own. A fine of 2*l.*, including costs, was imposed.

ALUM BAKING-POWDER.

AT Calne Police Court on April 5, Albert W. Buckeridge, of High Street, grocer, was summoned for selling four packets of baking powder which contained 38 per cent. of alum. The defendant did not dispute the analysis, but said he sold the article as he purchased it from the manufacturers. The Bench advised him to obtain a warranty for all his goods, and if they were not as represented then he could proceed against the wholesale dealers. Fined 1*s.* and 7*s.* costs.

MAGNESIA.

GEORGE SMITH, of Wood Street, Calne, grocer, was summoned on April 5 for selling four packets of magnesia which consisted of carbonate of magnesia, and was ordered to pay costs.

QUININE-WINE.

JOHN EDWARD POWELL, of High Street, Calne, confectioner, was summoned on April 5 for selling a bottle of quinine-wine which consisted of orange-wine containing not more than 10 gr. of hydrochloride per pint, whereas quinine-wine made in accordance with the directions of the British Pharmacopoeia contains 20 gr. of quinine hydrochloride per pint. The inspector stated that he purchased the bottle of wine for 1*s.* 7*d.*, which was an ample price for quinine-wine. Mr. Henley (for the defendant) pointed out that there were two kinds of quinine-wine: one which was supplied by the chemist, and which no doubt required to have the necessary constituents according to the Pharmacopoeia, and the other was one which was supplied as a beverage, and to sell which a licence was required. The latter was the wine sold to the inspector, and under those circumstances he contended that the prosecution had failed to establish their case. This wine had been manufactured for twenty-five years, and that was the first time proceedings had been taken in respect of its sale. A fine of 1*s.* and 7*d.* costs was imposed.

OLIVE OIL.

AT Watford Petty Sessions on April 4, William Florence Rickmansworth, was summoned for selling olive oil which the analyst (Mr. A. E. Ekins) certified was composed of cotton-seed oil. Defendant was ordered to pay 1*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* costs, but no conviction was recorded against him.

County Court Cases.

DELIVERY NOT PROVED.

AT Gravesend County Court on April 3, the Anglo-Continental Chemical Company (Limited), Queen Victoria Street, E.C., sued Messrs. Hinge Brothers, mineral-water manufacturers, Gravesend, for 4*l.* 1*s.* for saccharin supplied; but as plaintiffs were unable to prove delivery judgment was given for the defendants.

A CATCH TRANSACTION.

AT Yarmouth County Court on April 6, the Yarmouth Stores (Limited) sued David Cook, of Lowestoft, to recover 6*l.* 19*s.*

for six boxes of cutch supplied. Defendant counterclaimed for 3*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*, damages sustained for breach of contract. Plaintiffs sold six boxes according to sample, weighing about 1 cwt. each, through an agent, to defendant, but the defendant called expert evidence to show that the stuff sold was mangrove extract damaged by salt water, and was worthless. It had proved a total failure in processes in which genuine cutch was used. His Honour (Judge Wilnot) said plaintiffs had no doubt been imposed upon, but they sold the stuff as they received it. He gave judgment for the defendant on the claim, and dismissed the counterclaim with costs.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re WILLIAM FAIRBURN, Springfield, Chelmsford, Mineral-water Manufacturer.

THE public examination of this debtor took place at the Chelmsford Bankruptcy Court, on April 4. The statement of affairs showed liabilities 77*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.*, and deficiency, 398*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.* Debtor said he purchased the business at Springfield, in 1895, for 470*l.*, the money being borrowed from his sister-in-law. He had had no experience in the trade before taking over the business. This loan had not yet been repaid, and, with this exception, all the debts owing to the estate were in respect of goods supplied in the business. He failed while in business, some twenty years ago, as a wine and spirit merchant. Profits during the summer months varied, some weeks one made 35*l.* Debtor was ordered to file a cash account, and the examination was adjourned.

Re ANDREW MORRISON, 135 Cowcaddens, Glasgow, Chemist and Druggist.

THE examination of this debtor took place before Sheriff Fyfe in Glasgow on April 9, when bankrupt stated that he had been in business in Pollokshields. He was first salesman in the shop, but in 1886 he took over the business, paying for it 925*l.*, all of which he borrowed. That business was successful, and last year he sold it for 1,223*l.* After paying all liabilities he had a clear capital of about 300*l.*, although he was still owing his father about 170*l.* In August of last year he purchased the business in Cowcaddens, and carried it on until his sequestration. His statement of affairs showed liabilities 596*l.*, and assets 465*l.* Preferable claims were put down at 124*l.*, and ordinary claims at 471*l.*, the deficiency therefore being 131*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.* In the statement, however, some items were erroneously put down as preferable claims, and there would be about 350*l.* additional liabilities, bringing the deficiency up to about 500*l.* He attributed his failure to being out of work from March till August, cost of living, and bad debts. Some money was also spent in travelling, and pushing the business, and he also incurred a loss of 288*l.* through a deal in shares. He had also suffered through lending money, a Mr. William Connell receiving about 18*l.* for which, however, there were no vouchers. He had lost money in the Cowcaddens business, and his life policy was assigned to a creditor. The household furniture belonged to his wife. In November last he borrowed 200*l.* from a relative, that sum being paid into the bank. The stock-in-trade was valued at 285*l.*

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Baines, E. C. A., Rigge, J. A., and Ward, A. B., under the style of Baines, Rigge & Ward, Henley-on-Thames, surgeons, physicians, accoucheurs, apothecaries, and general medical practitioners; so far as regards J. A. Ward.

Beaton, R. M., and Alexander, A., under the style of Beaton & Alexander, Kentish Town Road and Dartmouth Park Road, Kentish Town, N.W., physicians and surgeons.

Heaton, R., and Baines, C. F., under the style of the Dalton Chemical Company, Dalton, Huddersfield, drysalters.

Lanzley, A. J., Hickman, E. A., and Halpin, R., under the style of the Coventry Mineral-water Company, Coventry, mineral-water manufacturers.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Escreet, Frederick William, Smith, Thomas Allen, and Walker, Harry Edwin (trading together in co-partnership under the style of Escreet, Smith & Walker), Kingston-upon-Hull, wholesale confectioners and druggists.

Sanders, Clement Henry, Exeter, dentist.

Deeds of Arrangement.

Taylor, Charles Ernie, trading as C. E. Taylor & Co., 166 Bradford Road, Dewsbury, and residing at Thornhill, wholesale druggist. Trustee, Walter Dawson, Dewsbury, C.A. Secured creditors, 10*l.* Dated April 2; filed April 5. Liabilities unsecured, 355*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*; estimated net assets, 162*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Beaufoy & Co., Leeds	14	0	0
Heintz Constantine, Stuttzberbach ...	22	0	0
Hirst, Brooke & Hirst, Leeds	43	0	0
Meadowcroft & Co., Bury	14	0	0
Pearce, Duff & Co., London	13	0	0
Potter & Clarke, London	10	0	0
Terry Darley, Dewsbury	13	0	0
Bankers' claims	98	0	0

Smith, George Forster, 3 East Parade, and **Rodgers, Richard Musgrove**, 15 Cavendish Place, and trading at 30 Bigg Market, all Newcastle-upon-Tyne, as Taylor, Gibson & Co., wholesale chemists. Trustee, John M. Winter, 16 Market Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, C.A. Dated March 28; filed April 4. Liabilities unsecured, 2,411*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.*; estimated net assets, 3,793*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.* Separate estate of G. F. Smith—liabilities unsecured, 16,647*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*; estimated net assets, 20,000*l.* The following are some of the trade creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Beaufoy & Co., Newcastle	113	0	0
Blundell, Spence & Co. (Limited), Hull ...	14	0	0
Bourne, Johnston & Latimer, London ...	19	0	0
Bovril (Limited), Newcastle	21	0	0
Carruthers, J., Newcastle	16	0	0
Cleaver, F. S., & Sons, London	32	0	0
Colman, J. & J., & Co., London	15	0	0
Cooper Brothers, Manchester	24	0	0
Crichton's Oil Company, Newcastle ...	79	0	0
Foggitt, W., Thirsk	36	0	0
Fratilile de Pasquale, Messina	19	0	0
Gibson, R., & Sons (Limited), Manchester	13	0	0
Harker, G., & Co., London	58	0	0
Harkness, Beaumont & Co., Edinburgh ...	23	0	0
Harvey & Co., Dublin	20	0	0
Hodgkinsons, Clarke & Ward, London ...	29	0	0
Horner & Sons, London	12	0	0
Johnson, Dodds & Co., Newcastle	39	0	0
Learmont & Johnson, Newcastle	31	0	0
Liebig's Wine Company, Liverpool	13	0	0
Lynch & Co., London	27	0	0
Macnair, J. & D., & Co., Glasgow	21	0	0
Mawson, Clark & Co., Newcastle	11	0	0
May & Baker, London	17	0	0
Potter & Clarke, London	11	0	0
Rankin & Co., Kilmarnock	27	0	0
Ransom, W., Hitchin	22	0	0
Richardson & Co., Leicester	10	0	0
Robinson & Sons, Chesterfield	31	0	0
Rubeck, H., London	31	0	0
Tyrer, T., & Co., London	61	0	0
Wilkinson, J. F., Manchester	22	0	0

A HOPELESS CASE.—Mr. Satupon (inquiring about his mother-in-law's health, with meek solicitude): "Is there any hope, doctor?" Dr. Sarkastick: "No hope; she'll recover."

MESSRS. WILKINSON & SIMPSON (LIMITED), wholesale druggists, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, have received a letter signed by seven non-commissioned officers and men of the 2nd Coldstream Guards in S. Africa, from which we take the following:—

DEAR SIRS,—It may interest you to know that after the battle of Belmont, while we were looting the Boers' camp, I came across some tins of your celebrated Natural Health Salt; it will be superfluous for me to say how welcome they were. After the fight I, along with some of my comrades, sat on the veldt and had the most refreshing drink we have had during the time we have been in South Africa. I can assure you I never felt better in my life; they were of double interest to me as I am a native of Newcastle. When I tell you I refused about 4 lbs. of tobacco for them you will see the value I put on them. It was my intention to save the empty tins and bring them back with me; but, as I had no room for them, I had to throw them away.

The writer is Private James O. Bell, and Messrs. Wilkinson & Simpson are proud of it.

New Companies & Company News.

AMERICAN PLASMON SYNDICATE (LIMITED).—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire American patent No. 642,852 of February 6, 1900, and to manufacture and deal in albuminous and other meat-extracts, and alkali compounds of albuminous substances.

FOX BROTHERS & CO. (MACCLESFIELD) (LIMITED).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on by A. Smith, B. Fox, and John Fox, as "Fox Brothers & Co.," and to carry on the business of soap, blue, blacking, and blacklead manufacturers, grocers, chemists, druggists, &c.

CONDAL WATER (1900) (LIMITED).—Capital 75,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (25,000 preference). Objects: To acquire the business of "The Condal Water Company (Limited)," and to carry on the business of natural mineral-water importers and mineral-water manufacturers and merchants. Registered office, 38 Walbrook, E.C.

CARBON OXIDE (LIMITED).—Capital 12,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (2,000 deferred). Objects: To acquire from J. Armstrong, patent No. 16,161 of 1899, and to use, work, and deal with the inventions which form the subject thereof. The first subscribers (each with one share) are:—C. Hanbury, Plough Court, Lombard Street, E.C., wholesale druggist; A. E. Taylor, 44 Leadenhall Street, E.C., shipowner; H. Gurney Aggs, Pippbrook, Dorking, discount banker; P. Bevan, Leadenhall Buildings, E.C., chartered accountant; A. A. Head, 27 Cornhill, E.C., insurance broker; A. Stables, 30 Wetherby Mansions, S.W., gentleman; and H. Stewart, 27 Cannon Street, E.C., M.I.C.E. Qualification of directors, 500*l.* Remuneration, 100*l.* each per annum, and 150*l.* for the chairman.

MESSRS. MEISTER, LUCIUS & BRÜNING, of Höchst-on-the-Maine, have declared a dividend of 26 per cent. for the past year.

PARKE'S DRUG STORES (LIMITED) have declared the usual half-yearly dividend on the preference shares at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, less income tax, payable on April 20.

WATKINS (LIMITED), wholesale druggists, &c., Shanghai. The net profits for the year ending December 31, 1899, after paying all charges, salaries, wages, preliminary expenses, and providing for bad and doubtful debts, amount to \$15,022.43. Out of this sum the directors propose to pay a dividend of 8 per cent. per share for the year, which will absorb \$8,000, and to carry forward to new profit-and-loss account, \$7,022.43. The general manager (Mr. G. A. Watkins) and Mr. Chairman A. Fook report that the business of the company continues to increase, and with the new aerated-water plant working they hope to add further to it.

CONDAL WATER (1900) (LIMITED).—To acquire a concession of the monopoly and supply of the medicinal apert water of the Condal Springs, in the province of Lerida, Spain. Capital 75,000*l.*, divided into 25,000 cumulative 5 per cent. preference, and 50,000 ordinary shares of 1*l.* each, which are now offered for subscription. The preference shares are entitled, after 10 per cent. shall have been paid on the ordinary, to 20 per cent. of any surplus profits, the remaining 80 per cent. being divided as to 45 per cent. to the ordinary shares, 25 per cent. to reserve, and 10 per cent. to the directors as additional remuneration. The sales for 1899 are stated at 228,000 bottles, and 80,000 for the current year to March 10. The purchase-price has been fixed at 35,000*l.* No cash payment will be made, however, until at least 10,000 shares shall have been subscribed for working capital. The subscription-list is now open, and will close on or before April 23.

THE SCOTTISH CYANIDE COMPANY (LIMITED).—In the Court of Session on April 6, a petition was presented by the Linde British Refrigeration Company (Limited), London, for the judicial winding-up of the Scottish Cyanide Company (Limited), Leven, Fife, and the appointment of a liquidator. The company was formed in 1896 to purchase the patent rights of an invention for improvements in obtaining cyanides and ferrocyanides. The nominal capital was 200,000*l.*, in 15,000 ordinary and 5,000 deferred shares of 10*l.* each. Petitioners stated that a committee reported that the company's debts amounted to 50,000*l.*, and after full consideration of the position of the company recommended that the creditors should be asked to postpone their claims by taking payment in 6-per-cent. debentures, but that if

they refused the company should go into liquidation. The petitioners were creditors for 372*l.* 18*s.* In their answers the Cyanide Company stated they had met with unexpected difficulties, but believed that the company could carry on business at a profit if the creditors were willing to postpone their claims by accepting debentures, and the shareholders provided 25,000*l.* for the further development of the process. Creditors representing 49,000*l.* out of 50,000*l.* had agreed to accept debentures. Respondents believed the capital would be subscribed. His Lordship said it was not to be assumed because the company could not pay an individual debt that it was insolvent, and pointed out that the petitioners had not followed out the provisions of the statute, the petition having been presented before the expiry of the charge. The petition was refused, the respondents being found entitled to expenses.

ROSBACH SPRINGS (LIMITED).—At the fourth annual general meeting, on April 6, at the Café Monico, the Chairman (Mr. Edward Moore), in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that since the last meeting the directors had called up further capital to the amount of 7,264*l.*, making the total amount so far paid up 67,872*l.* In sundry creditors there was an increase of 2,543*l.*, accounted for by increased business. During the year 419*l.* had been expended on additions to plant and buildings at the springs, and 6,957*l.* in the development of the business. 300*l.* had been written off to commutation of commission paid to the late managers. The stock stood at 6,250*l.*, which was an increase of about 1,800*l.* on last year's figure. They were obliged to keep a bigger stock, owing to the increased business which the company was doing. Sundry debtors stood at 5,089*l.*, against 3,549*l.* last year. The same remark applied to that item. It would be seen from the profit-and-loss account that the balance brought forward from the trading account was 5,667*l.*, against 4,993*l.* last year, an increase of 669*l.* Salaries, rent, rates, &c., showed an increase, and on the year's trading there was a debit balance of 208*l.* Mr. Matthew Wallace criticised various items in the accounts, and brought out the facts that 23,824*l.* had been spent on extraordinary advertisements, and added to capital account. The Chairman, in reply to a question, said that 4,000*l.* had been raised on debentures, and that Mr. Evans, one of the directors, owed 1,750*l.* on unpaid calls. This was described by Mr. Mason as a monstrous thing, and an explanation was asked for. Mr. Evans placed himself in the hands of the Chairman, but thought, in the interests of the company, as well as of himself, it would be unwise to give an explanation just then. After further discussion, a committee was appointed to examine the accounts, investigate the management, and consider with the board the best mode of raising further capital. Mr. Evans said he had no desire to continue as a director, and would tender his resignation to the Chairman, at the same time placing his services as a shareholder at the disposal of the committee. The meeting adjourned to April 24.

Recent Wills.

LINES.—The will, dated March 11, 1878, of Mr. George Lines pharmaceutical chemist, of Hertford, and one of the founders of the Pharmaceutical Society, who died on February 10, 1900, has been proved at the Principal Registry by the executrices, Caroline Lines, widow, and Caroline Lines, daughter. The sworn amount of the estate is 2,030*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* The testator directs that his widow shall carry on his business for her own and children's benefit, and in the event of her decease then in trust.

RANSOM.—The estate of Mr. G. E. Ransom, chemist and druggist, Kirmington, Lincolnshire, who died on August 28, 1899, has been sworn at 3,196*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*, the net personalty being 341*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* His will, with one codicil, has been proved by the executors, Messrs. George Gurnell and W. J. Smith, of Wootton.

SUMMERS.—The gross estate of Mr. James R. Summers, chemist and druggist, 15 Norton Folgate, E.C., who died on August 9, 1899, has been sworn at 2,179*l.* 7*s.*, by his widow and acting executrix, Mrs. Sophia Summers, to whom probate of the deceased's will has been granted.

TRIMMING.—Letters of administration to the estate of Mr. A. J. Trimming, chemist and druggist, Alton, Hants, who died on March 18, 1899, have been granted to his son, Mr. W. J. Trimming, of the Poplar Brewery; the estate was sworn at 4,284*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.*, the net personalty being 2,678*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.*

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

COUNCIL MEETING.

THE Council met on Wednesday, April 4, at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin. The President (Mr. George D. Beggs) presided, and the other members who attended were Messrs. Tate and Jameson of Belfast, Connor of Newry, and Grindley, Kelly, and Michie, of Dublin.

THE ROYAL VISIT.

A draft address to the Queen on the occasion of her Majesty's visit to Dublin was approved of.

BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL.

A letter from the Under-Secretary, Dublin Castle, stated that the Lord Lieutenant, having considered the memorial of James White, of Castleblaney, for the remission of a penalty of 5*l.* which had been imposed on him for an illegal sale of a poison, and also the observations from the Council thereon, had decided that the law should take its course.

The PRESIDENT stated that the reply of the Council to the memorial had been drafted by himself and the Vice-President. It was the case of an apprentice who sold laudanum in his master's absence; and the person for whom it was supplied, a woman, drank it and died. The owner of the concern was away from 10 o'clock in the morning until 5 in the afternoon, leaving the apprentice who sold the laudanum in full charge of the establishment. They stated that the offence, in the opinion of the Council, was a very grave one.

A letter was received from Mr. R. J. Downes (ex-President), stating that he felt obliged to relinquish his position of representative of the Council at the conference of the British Pharmacopœia Committee of the General Medical Council. Mr. Downes said he was most sensible of the honour of having been elected to the position, and resigned it with regret, as he saw no prospect of being able to attend the Conference.

The PRESIDENT: My feeling is that Mr. Downes should be asked to reconsider his resignation. It is not a very pressing matter, as the meetings of the committee are not frequent, and he may be able to attend the next. He has rendered very good service at those meetings already.

Mr. GRINDLEY: His difficulty is, going to London in the present state of his health.

Mr. KELLY: He certainly is a most suitable man for the position.

Mr. GRINDLEY: And we are not prepared to appoint a successor to him.

Mr. TATE moved that Mr. Downes be requested to reconsider his decision.

Mr. KELLY seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

A letter from the Laneaster and Morecambe Chemists' Association relating to the Companies Bill at present before Parliament was referred to the Law Committee.

Letters acknowledging the receipt of donations of copies of the Calendar of the Society were received from the Inspector-General of the Royal Irish Constabulary; Mr. Lister, Librarian of the National Library, Dublin; Mr. Blake, Registrar of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland; Mr. R. E. Matheson, Registrar-General for Ireland; and Mr. Richard Brembridge, Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

RESIGNATIONS.

A letter was received from Dr. Ninian Falkiner resigning his position of lecturer for the Society in materia medica and botany. He mentioned that he had been appointed Medical Superintendent in the office of the Registrar-General, and expressed his thanks to the Council for the courtesy and support they had extended to him in connection with the discharge of his duties.

The PRESIDENT: I am sure we are all very sorry to lose the services of Dr. Falkiner. He has been a long time with us, and has always taken a great interest in the work of the Society. We cannot do more at present than let his deputy, Mr. O'Connor, continue to act for the remainder of the session.

Mr. MICHIE moved that Mr. Henry O'Connor be continued as lecturer in materia medica and botany until the end of the current session, and that advertisements be published for a successor to Dr. Falkiner.

Mr. KELLY seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

A letter was received from Mr. A. Whitla resigning his position of examiner in pharmacy, but stating that he would conduct his portion of the examinations that were to take place in the following week. He thanked the Council for the kindness they had shown to him on all occasions, and for the prompt attention they had always given to his suggestions.

It was ordered that advertisements be inserted for a successor to Dr. Whitla.

A donation was received from the Pharmacy Board of Victoria of a copy of their Register for 1899.

On the motion of Mr. JAMESON, thanks were voted to the donors.

Mr. J. Richardson, 51 Donegall Pass, Belfast, was nominated for membership as an associate druggist. Other business having been disposed of, the Council adjourned.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

APRIL EXAMINATIONS.

THE Board of Examiners for Scotland met in Edinburgh last week, when one Major candidate was examined and failed, also 117 Minor candidates, of whom 84 failed, and the following 33 passed:—

Andrews, Martha, Edinburgh
 Arnot, David, Glasgow
 Birnie, James M., Aberdeen
 Dawson, F. W., Edinburgh
 Dowell, James, Edinburgh
 Drummond, W. B., Edinburgh
 Duncan, Howat, Edinburgh
 Fairbairn, A., Edinburgh
 Ferrier, John G., Edinburgh
 Hedger, Harry O., Edinburgh
 Hume, Robert Marshall, Duns
 Johnston, Robert A., Edinburgh
 McEwan, Arthur, Glasgow
 McMillan, Allan, Kilmarnock
 Melrose, Francis, Edinburgh
 Middleton, E. L., Edinburgh
 Milne, William F., Aberdeen

Nicoll, Thomas, Edinburgh
 Owens, Thomas O., Edinburgh
 Petrie, David L., Edinburgh
 Patten, Mary, Alnwick
 Ross, Albert, Nottingham
 Russell, William, Edinburgh
 Shadforth, William, Durham
 Smith, Charles M., Glasgow
 Strachan, Robert G., Edinburgh
 Thomson, George, Lerwick
 Traill, Alex. M., Edinburgh
 Walker, James, Helensburgh
 Wallace, Robert, Glasgow
 Waters, R. S., Edinburgh
 Weir, John, Glasgow
 Wilson, Robert M., Glasgow

"FIRST" EXAMINATION.

THE following are the questions given at the examination on April 10:—

LATIN.

(Time allowed—from 11 A.M. to 12.30 P.M.)

I. For all Candidates. Translate into Latin:—

1. The soldier's daughters are very unhappy.
2. This servant will be praised by the father of Crassus.
3. The fourth legion has been sent to the assistance of the Gauls.
4. The book which we were reading has been lost.
5. This thing being done, she wished to return.

II. Translate into English *either* A (Caesar) *or* B (Virgil).

(Candidates must not attempt both authors.)

A.—CAESAR.

1. Pro multitudinem autem hominum, et pro gloria belli atque fortitudinis, angustus se fines habere arbitrabantur, qui in longitudinem millia passuum ducenta et quadraginta, in latitudinem centum et octoginta patebant. His rebus adducti, et auctoritate Orgetorigis permoti, constituerunt, ea, quae ad proficiscendum pertinerent, comparare; iumentorum et carrorum quam maximum numerum comere; sementis quam maximas facere, ut in itinere copia frumenti suppetret; cum proximis civitatibus pacem et amicitiam confirmare.
2. Cognito Caesaris adventu, Ariovistus legatos ad eum mittit: Quod antea de colloquio postulasset, id per se fieri licere, quoniam propius accessisset; seque id sine periculo facere posse existimare. Non respuit conditionem Caesar, jamque eum ad sanitatem reverti

arbitratur, quum id, quod antea petenti denegasset, ultro polliceretur; magnamque in spem veniebat, pro suis tantis populique Romani in eum beneficiis, cognitis suis postulatis, fore uti pertinacia desisteret. Dies colloquio dictus est, ex eo die quintus.

Grammatical Questions.

(For those only who take Caesar.)

1. Decline, in full, in the singular *magnam spem*, and in the plural *eo die*. (Passage 2.)
2. Give the principal parts of all the verbs in Passage 1.
3. Parse fully—"Cognito Caesaris adventu, Ariovistus legatos ad eum mittit." (Passage 2.)
4. What cases are used in Latin to express (a) motion to a place, (b) measure of space? Give sentences in illustration.

B.—VIRGIL.

1. O Dea ! si prima reptens ab origine pergam,
Et vacet annales nostrorum audire laborum;
Ante diem clauso componet Vesper Olympo.
Nos, Troja antiqua (si vestras forte per aures
Trojae nomen iit) diversa per aequora vectos,
Forte sua Libyeis tempestas appulit oris.
2. Dixit, et in mensam laticum libavit honorem,
Primaque, libato, summo tenus attingit ore:
Tum Bitiae dedit inereptans. Ille impiger hausit
Spumantem pateram, et pleno se proluit auro.
Post alii proceres. Cithara crinitus Iopas
Personat aurata, docuit quem maximus Atlas.
Hic canit errantem lunam solisque labores;
Unde hominum genus et pecudes; unde imber et ignes;
Areturum pluviasque Hyadas geminosque Triones;
Quid tantum Oceano prorepent se tingere soles
Hiberni, vel quae tardis mora noctibus obstet.

Grammatical Questions.

(For those only who take Virgil.)

1. Decline, in full, in the singular *errantem lunam*, and in the plural *tardis noctibus*. (Passage 2.)
2. Give the principal parts of all the verbs in Passage 1.
3. Parse fully—"Cithara crinitus Iopas personat aurata, docuit quem maximus Atlas." (Passage 2.)
4. What cases are used in Latin to express (a) motion to a place, (b) measure of space? Give sentences in illustration.

ARITHMETIC.

(Time allowed—from 12.30 P.M. to 2 P.M.)

(The working of these questions, as well as the answers, must be written out in full.)

1. A dishonest innkeeper buys 12 pipes of wine, and mixes $1\frac{1}{2}$ quarts of water with every 3 gallons of wine. How many pints will he have to sell? (Answer in words.)
2. If $1\frac{3}{4}$ of 1 cwt. cost 7l. 3s., what will $\frac{5}{6}$ of 1 ton cost?
3. If 25 men can perform a piece of work in 16 days, working 12 hours a day, in what time will 20 men perform a similar piece of work 6 times as large, when they work only 8 hours a day?

4. Simplify $\left(\frac{34}{7} + \frac{2}{10\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{5}{6} \times \frac{4}{21}\right) \times 1\frac{1}{2}$.

5. Add .40972 of 3s. to .27 of 8s., and express the result as the decimal of 1l.

6. The difference between the incomes derived from investing a certain sum in 6-per-cent. stock at 126 and a similar sum in 4½-per-cent. stock at 105 is 22l. 10s. What is the amount invested in each?

The following question must be attempted by every candidate:—

7. A journey of 725 kilometres can be performed by railway in 18 hours. Find, approximately, the average number of miles per hour at which the train goes.

ENGLISH.

(Time allowed—from 3 P.M. to 4.30 P.M.)

1. Analyse:—

"Like a knell of death and judgment
Rung from heaven by angel hand,
Fell the words of desolation
On the elders of the land."

2. Give the force of the suffixes in the following words:—*yeomanry, lancet, womanish, freedom, gosling, youngster*.

3. Correct the following sentences, giving your reasons:—

- (a) He neither knows Latin or French.
- (b) He did not get so many rewards as me.
- (c) She had fair hair, which was quite different to her sisters.

4. In the following passage, supply the necessary capital letters and put in the stops and the inverted commas where necessary:—
quite so said the editor and it is just that reputation for accuracy that i want to gain for the daily bugle dont you think the truth of it is that the man wauts more money who hazel oh no i am sure the money does not come into the matter at all replied hardwick

The following question must be attempted by every candidate:—

5. Write a short composition on one of the following subjects:—

- (i.) Wireless Telegraphy.
- (ii.) Conscription.
- (iii.) Changes in the Social Condition of the People of this Country during the Nineteenth Century.
- (iv.) Coal.

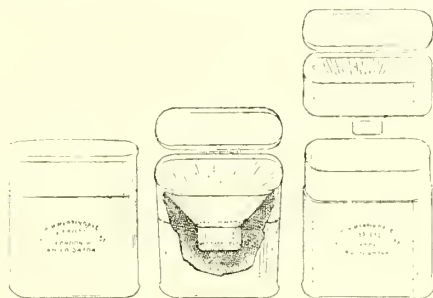
Novelties.

GYPTICAN OIL.

WE understand that Mr. William E. Geddes, who until recently was the manager of the Charles A. Vogeler Company, has formed an English syndicate, and is to put in the market in two or three weeks a new liniment to conquer pain, under the name of Gyptican oil. It is to sell at 1s. $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 2s. 6d. a bottle, and with Mr. Geddes's quite exceptional experience in promoting the sale of proprietary articles this new one ought to go.

PORTABLE SPITTOON.

MR. W. MARTINDALE, 10 New Cavendish Street, W., has put on the market a neat and convenient spittoon for use by consumptive patients. It has been designed by Dr. W. Harrison Martindale, and the form of it is shown in the appended reduced sketches. The spittoon measures



$3\frac{1}{4}$ inches high, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch broad. It consists of two parts, the upper or mouth portion having the form of a funnel sliding over the lower container. The lid is so sprung that it stands well away from the nose when the patient is using the spittoon. The spittoon is supplied with antiseptic tablets containing thymol, one of which suffices for a day's use. It is important that retail chemists should encourage the use of such vessels as this, as medical authorities are now recommending similar preventive methods as have been adopted by a large London vestry, viz:—

A consumptive person must not spit or expectorate in public places. He must expectorate into a special cup or vessel provided for the purpose, or a pocket spittoon, but not into handkerchiefs. The collected expectoration must be burnt at the back of an open fire, or disinfected and placed into the drain or w.c., the cup, vessel, or spittoon being afterwards immediately washed with boiling water. A consumptive person must not swallow the expectoration, as by so doing the disease may be conveyed to other organs or parts of the body.

The spittoon, with a bottle of the tablets, retails at 7s.

SIMPSON—ANDERSON.—At 78 Linburn Street, Galashiels, on April 9, Mr. Gilbert Simpson, pharmaceutical chemist, Edinburgh, was married to Miss Margaret Rutherford, second daughter of Mr. George Anderson, tweed manufacturer, Galashiels.

Association Affairs.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' ASSOCIATION.

THE annual gathering of this Association was held at the Grand Hotel, Hanley, on April 3. At the annual meeting which preceded the dinner, Mr. T. C. Cornwell presided, in the absence, through illness, of the President (Mr. J. Averill, of Stafford), who wrote saying that he was sorry to see there was such a want of unity of opinion amongst the members of the Pharmaceutical Council as to the action they should take in regard to Clause 2 of the Companies Bill. He could not conceive a greater injustice to the qualified man than was contemplated in Clauses 2 and 3. He was of the opinion that Clause 2 should be opposed by every possible means, and, if necessary, an amended Pharmacy Act brought in later. He was in favour of territorial representation.

Giving a *résumé* of the work done by the Association during the session, Mr. E. Jones (Hon. Secretary) mentioned that four meetings had been held, but he complained that the meetings had been very poorly attended. The annual balance-sheet showed a balance in hand. The officers were then re-elected as follows:—Mr. John Averill, President; Mr. T. C. Cornwell and Mr. Oldham, Vice-Presidents; Mr. Weston Poole, Treasurer; and Mr. E. Jones, Hon. Secretary.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Gowen Cross, who was present, made a few remarks with respect to the attitude of the Pharmaceutical Council towards the Companies Bill, in the course of which he said he had striven for fifteen years, and had come to the conclusion that they would never better themselves so far as companies were concerned. He thought that to attempt to regulate stores would be the most disastrous thing they could possibly do. The Council was unanimous in its desire to knock Clause 2 on the head, and he had it on the best authority that Clauses 2 and 3 would be deleted.

Mr. Cornwell proposed:—

That this meeting, having heard Mr. Cross's exposition of the position, is gratified to find that the Pharmaceutical Council has arrived at a unanimous decision to oppose Clause 2 and Clause 3 of the Bill, and begs to support the present attitude of the Society towards the Bill now before Parliament.

Mr. E. Jones seconded. He gave it as his opinion that the attitude of the Council of late had been most unsatisfactory, and very disheartening and discouraging. Their passive and, apparently, inactive policy was becoming intolerable, and unless the Council roused themselves he feared the Society would be somewhat weakened and seriously damaged in the esteem and consideration of some of its hitherto most loyal and enthusiastic supporters.

Mr. Poole asked Mr. Cross if, after opposing the two clauses of the Bill, the Pharmaceutical Society intended doing anything towards getting new legislation in regard to company-trading.

Mr. Cross thought the Council would in certain eventualities, in all probability, take steps to prepare a new Bill.

THE DINNER.

Subsequently dinner was served to a company numbering about twenty-five, after which Mr. Weston Poole gave "The Pharmaceutical Society."

Mr. Cross, responding, characterised the Society as one of the grandest institutions in the country, and as one which had done more for chemists and druggists than could possibly be pointed out. They had, he said, a chance of a very considerable sensation next May in the election of the Council. No fewer than twenty-six gentlemen had been nominated—the most healthy sign he had seen for a long time.

Mr. Glyn-Jones also replied. He said he was sorry that individual members of the Society had not taken that interest year by year they might have done in the government of the Society—(hear, hear)—and that was not a matter of opinion, but a matter of evidence. It was a sorry fact that in some of the elections only half the papers had year by year been returned. There could be no two opinions amongst chemists with regard to the company-trading

question. He did not think they should waste time in discussing and trying to satisfy each other as to what they wanted and what were their just rights; he thought they should rather consider what had they the best possible chance of getting. He really thought they had—in the near future a chance of getting their titles. He was convinced of this, that they had in the Pharmacy Act powers which, if enforced, would be all they wanted, and would work out their salvation.

Replying for "The Visitors," Mr. Lord Gifford said he believed that chemists all over the country thought they earned something in the examination-room. They had a right to have it. Notwithstanding all the talk about that being Utopian and impracticable, they thought undoubtedly that that was their sheet-anchor. They must stick to it, and if it was worked for all it was worth he believed that it could be made effective. The qualification as it at present stood was reduced to an absurdity, so much so that the Lord Chancellor stepped in and said, "You must alter that absurdity. If not, I shall alter it for you."

The toast of the evening was given by Mr. Cross, Messrs. Cornwell and Oxen responding. The President and the Chairman having been toasted, the proceedings terminated.

BIRKENHEAD CHEMISTS COMBINE.

A meeting of chemists of Birkenhead and neighbourhood was held on April 3, and a local association was formed under the title of "The Birkenhead and District Chemists' Association." The following officers were elected:—Messrs. Cragg James (President), Dutton (Vice-President), Breese (Treasurer), and Huken (Hon. Secretary). Meetings are to be held quarterly, or oftener if necessary, sociability and trade interests being the main objects of the Association.

GRIMSBY CHEMISTS DINE.

The annual dinner of the Grimsby and District Chemists' Association was held on April 5, Mr. R. Cook (President) in the chair. After an excellent repast and the usual loyal toasts had been proposed, Mr. C. Willson gave "The Association." He expressed the regret of the Association at the loss they had sustained by the death of their late President (Alderman Palmer), referred to the burning question of the hour—company-trading—and the inadequate protection extended to the trade by Parliament. He was likewise of opinion that the Patent-medicine Law required alteration. He thought it was a cruel law, and one that ought never to have existed in its present condition. He could not understand, he said, why the poor people of the land should be taxed for patent medicines when they were ill and could not afford to call in the services of a medical man. He hoped the committee would take the matter up. Mr. T. D. Sneath, in reply, spoke of the good work done by the Association in the past year, and Mr. C. Dewing also responded. The latter gentleman said there was certainly reason for the continued grumbling on the part of some members with reference to the apparent indifference on the part of the Pharmaceutical Council, but by supporting their own Association and bringing matters continually before the Council they would perhaps wake up more to the interests of provincial chemists. "The President and Members of the Council" was then proposed by Mr. J. Wharton, to which Mr. Cook, Mr. Willson, and Mr. H. W. Colley replied. The toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society" was given by Mr. J. C. White, who said he did not see the necessity for such a toast, seeing that the Pharmaceutical Society seemed out of touch with all such Associations as theirs. The Society was a grand and scientific body, but science would not earn what was necessary to the chemist. He would like the Society to be more in touch with the chemists and to leave a little of the scientific out. He sincerely hoped the Pharmaceutical Society would mend its ways, be wise, and endeavour to progress. Mr. R. Cook, as the local representative, responded, and said that there was one thing in connection with the Society that pleased everybody—viz., the Benevolent Fund. During the evening songs and recitations were contributed by those present, whilst the gramophone was exhibited by Mr. Cullum.

CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

On April 5 the last social and musical meeting of the Association took place at 73 Newman Street. Between twenty and thirty members were present to listen to a very

excellent programme of a varied character. Mr. William Warren, Pharmaceutical Councillor, acted as chairman. Mr. W. Neale Ellis presided at the piano, and Messrs. C. J. Strother, C. Morley, J. S. Parker, and Marcus contributed excellent martial and patriotic ballads; Mr. Hymans played sweetly on the violin; Mr. Morley Taylor gave characteristic recitations from Carroll and Bret Harte; and Mr. H. A. Martin contributed songs of gentler harmony. Mr. Victor Blin and Mr. A. Latreille (the genial Secretary) conducted the light-comedy portion of the musical programme. In reply to a vote of thanks proposed by the President of the Association, Mr. Warren said he hoped that a better time was coming for pharmacy and pharmacists in spite of all their difficulties, and expressed his great pleasure at presiding over what turned out to be a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

BURNLEY CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday evening, April 10, the annual meeting of this Association was held at the Bull Hotel, Burnley, when Mr. J. A. Heaton (President) occupied the chair. Mr. Brown (Secretary) reviewed the work of the year, stating that the meetings had been fairly well attended, and that the Association numbers twenty-nine.

Mr. Dodsley (Treasurer) reported a balance in hand of £2. 4s. 9d.

The President remarked that the Association had got through a good amount of work, and passed a high compliment on the committee. The President and the other office-bearers having been thanked, Mr. Heaton was re-elected president, Mr. Hitchin was appointed the vice-president, Mr. Brown was re-elected secretary, and Mr. Dodsley was also re-appointed treasurer.

The Chairman remarked in regard to the Pharmaceutical Council that there ought to be some change. (Hear, hear.) They should endeavour to get four new members, and so endeavour to bring about more active legislation.

In regard to the Companies Bill the Secretary read several items of correspondence, remarking that the member of Parliament for Burnley (Hon. Philip Stanhope) had promised to use his influence against the objectionable clauses.

BRADFORD CHEMISTS DINE.

The annual dinner of the Bradford and District Chemists' Association was held on April 10, Mr. R. W. Silson presiding over a large attendance. "The Pharmaceutical Society" was proposed by Mr. Worfolk, and replied to at considerable length by Mr. S. N. Pickard. The toast of "The Bradford and District Chemists' Association" was proposed by Mr. Edward Evans, jun., in an able speech, and Mr. Silson replied. Alderman Dunn toasted "Kindred Associations," and during the evening songs were contributed by Messrs. Brenson, S. Taylor, Hanson, and others. The report arrived as we were going to press, and too late for giving *in extenso*.

Royal Institution.

PROFESSOR DEWAR ON SOLID HYDROGEN.

THE gathering at the Royal Institution on April 6 was almost as brilliant as on the occasion of the liquefaction of hydrogen by Professor Dewar during the centenary celebrations. Amongst the scientific notabilities over whom Sir Frederick Bramwell presided were Lord Lister, Lord Rayleigh, Sir F. Abel, Sir W. Crookes, Professor Odling, Mr. T. W. Swan, Dr. Ludwig Mond, and Professor S. P. Thompson.

Professor Dewar began by saying that, with the dawn of the present century, speculation was rife as to the characters of hydrogen. Black, in the latter part of last century, had promulgated the theory that hydrogen was a metallic body, but, as a very loyal disciple of Newton, he had qualified that by saying that what it might prove to be no man could foretell. Lavoisier consistently held the same belief, and Davy also propounded the theory that nitrogen and hydrogen were the vapours of metallic bodies. Faraday, Daniel Dumas, and the most advanced chemists had been strongly of that opinion until Professor Odling ventured to express views to the contrary. Professor Dewar then proceeded

with a long series of experiments. After proving that the temperature of liquid hydrogen is 70° below that of liquid air, and explaining how reduction of temperature became disproportionately more difficult the lower the starting-point on the scale, he illustrated the difference in the behaviour of liquid nitrogen and liquid oxygen when made to boil under diminished pressure. The temperature of both was reduced, but while the nitrogen ultimately solidified the oxygen remained liquid. He had found it absolutely impossible to solidify oxygen in that way, the explanation being that oxygen at its lowest temperature had an inappreciable vapour-pressure, whereas nitrogen had considerable pressure. To illustrate the power of liquid hydrogen as a cooling agent he performed an experiment with a Wollaston's cryophorus, with the difference that the fluid to be solidified was not water, but liquid air with a large proportion of nitrogen, and the material used to effect condensation was liquid hydrogen. He then showed how hydrogen could be liquefied in a closed tube, explaining the importance of this with regard to the determination of its density, and exhibited in a very successful experiment the gas in a solid form. This was effected by putting a portion of the liquid into a vacuum-jacketed vessel immersed in liquid air. When the pressure in the vessel was slowly reduced the hydrogen soon appeared at 15° absolute, in an opaque snow-like mass. "It is therefore proved," said the Professor, "that hydrogen is undoubtedly a transparent solid, and the fact that hydrogen solidifies in that way is, in a sense, a disappointment to anyone who is very anxious to reach low temperatures, as a solid is a very bad substance for cooling-purposes."

Referring to the uses of liquid hydrogen for scientific research, Professor Dewar first proved that it afforded the only means of obtaining solid oxygen, as when immersed in it the oxygen becomes a blue-white solid mass. This was one of the most effective and interesting experiments performed. The gradual solidification of the hitherto insoluble oxygen was effected without any apparent trouble, and it was emphasised to the audience by the Professor pouring off the liquid hydrogen, and then shaking out the white snow-like mass of oxygen.

The behaviour of metals with regard to electrical conductivity at a very low temperature was then gone into. From experiments with liquid air it was expected that at the zero of absolute temperature pure metals would have no electric resistance at all; but though resistance-curves appeared to be going straight to zero at the temperature of liquid air he found that below the temperature of solid air they bent sharply round, so that a finite resistance was indicated. In the course of one of the electrical experiments a quantity of the liquid hydrogen caught fire, and a little excitement was caused, but the coolness of the Professor was reassuring; half turning to the audience with the bottle of liquid hydrogen grasped tightly in both hands he remarked coolly, "Yes, yes—that is one of the sort of things we expect, you know." In connection with the separation of these mixed gases the lecturer mentioned the interesting fact that the nitrogen which he had used in his experiments came from the Bath Wells, which he had found was the best and easiest source of pure nitrogen. Concluding the Professor said that the question of cost in connection with these investigations was heart-breaking, and many people wondered whether the result was worth it. He thought it was, for anything which went towards solving the problems surrounding matter and energy could not be useless. He thanked the Goldsmiths' Company for the magnificent donation which enabled him to continue this work, and he hoped, if health remained, to proceed a little further in his investigations. Finally he paid a generous and eloquent tribute to his assistants, Messrs. Robert Lennox, Heath, and Pettifer, who by their manful and determined support had enabled him to place before the world the results they had seen.

BACTERIOLOGY.—On April 7 a lecture was given to the students of the Leeds College of Pharmacy by the Principal, Mr. F. Pilkington Sargeant, F.C.S., on "Bacteriology for Chemists." The lecturer dealt with the analysis of yeasts and the detection of bacteria by means of tube, plate, and hanging-drop cultures. In the afternoon the students went to Bardsey on a botanical excursion. The following specimens, amongst others, were found in flower:—*Fragaria fragariastrum*, *Ranunculus Ficaria*, *Viola canina*, and *Stellaria media*.

Correspondence

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

An Appeal to the Electorate.

SIR,—The issue of the coming election for the seven vacant seats in the Council is of such great importance to the whole body of chemists that it is to be hoped each member will weigh carefully the evidence, and decide whether he should vote for or against a change in the present Council. Ten new candidates offer themselves for the seven seats, and I think there should be no difficulty in making a judicious selection of at least four or five new members who will be able to throw in their lot with the few progressive men we have at present on that body, and thereby bring about a welcome change in its administration and *régime*. It is not necessary to make a more than casual study of past work done by the Council to see that it would be decidedly beneficial for future legislation to all concerned if the present majority could in future act as a progressive minority. I hope that some concerted action will be taken to bring this about, as proposed in my letter of March 24, so that success may attend the efforts of those who, like myself, are impressed with its absolute necessity. I used the words "apathy of the Council" in my last letter, which innocent remark brought down upon me an attack of a purely personal nature from a writer in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* who styles himself "An Ordinary Pharmacist." I will for his edification justify that remark by giving one instance. Twelve months ago a prominent member of the Council, speaking at our annual dinner at Burnley, said that the scheduling of carbolic acid was practically an accomplished fact, but to-day we know that it is as far off as ever. If the Council had wished to bring about this desirable end, it was their duty to elicit the support and sympathy of the Coroners and the medical profession. It was also their duty to agitate members of Parliament to persistently raise the question in the House, and post such members on all cases of poisoning by carbolic acid, and especially where the sale was made by grocers and unqualified men. Had this course been adopted, I have no hesitation whatever in saying that carbolic acid would have been on the schedule years ago, and scores of valuable lives would have been saved. But this progressive body contents itself with the manly effort of formally bringing the matter under the notice of the authorities every four or five years. This is one of the many sins of omission that are rousing members of the Society to action, and it is very evident from the number of nominations this week and the numerous outspoken letters that appear regularly in the journals week after week, that this state of things, which has passively existed for the last twenty years, ought to be ended once and for all. It is very unfortunate that letters of this kind should be held up in pious horror by the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, and that members who are endeavouring to assist useful work by honest criticism should be subjected to virulent attacks of a purely personal nature. On serious reflection one is almost driven to ask the question, Does the *Pharmaceutical Journal* exist for the Society or is the Society run in the interests of the *Journal*?

Burnley, April 8.

JNO. A. HEATON.

B.P. Standardisation.

SIR,—In Mr. J. A. Dewhirst's note on B.P. standardisation he comments on a process for the determination of the alkaloid in ext. belladonnæ liq. which I suggested some time ago (*C. & D.*, November 3, 1899). He says:—

Dowzard has suggested a process involving the use of sand-percolation and the taking of an aliquot part of the solvent. The extraction by percolation through sand is not easy, using a

reasonably small quantity of solvent, and the taking of an aliquot part is always an uncertain method.

Mr. Dewhirst is under a misapprehension when he says "the extraction by percolation," &c., because in the method I suggested there is no percolation through sand: it is a maceration of the finely-divided solid constituents (brought about by evaporation over sand) with an accurately measured quantity (50 c.c.) of the solvent in a stoppered cylinder or flask. This is a very simple and easy operation, and the quantity of solvent is not excessive. Although taking an aliquot part is a somewhat uncertain method, yet in the present case the error introduced is small, because the amount of matter dissolved by the solvent only increases its volume by about 0.4 c.c., and if the alkaloidal solution is poured directly from the stoppered cylinder or flask into an accurate measuring cylinder, there is no loss of solvent by evaporation. I think the above considerations go to prove that when this process is carried out with reasonable care the error is no greater than in other processes.

Yours faithfully,

E. DOWZARD.

Re C.A.A. (London).

SIR,—If other chemists' assistants are similarly placed to myself—and I think the majority are—it seems to me the lack of interest in the C.A.A. is due, at any rate partly, to the long hours of business with which we are afflicted. Very few assistants care, after being cooped up in a shop all day long, to prolong the agony by discussing trade or professional subjects in hours which should, in the interests of health, be devoted to recreation. A cricket or football club in connection with the Association would be a failure, long hours of business being again responsible, but if a reading-room with newspapers, periodicals, and trade-journals, together with, perhaps, a small but select pharmaceutical library, were established, it would go far to popularise the Association. As things stand at present the proceedings are too formal and businesslike to attract the majority of assistants, and without some alteration the C.A.A. of London will continue to consist of a few pharmaceutical enthusiasts, together with a few favoured ones whose life is not chiefly work, eat, and sleep.

Yours truly,

A FORMER MEMBER (46/28).

SIR,—You ask, What is the remedy for the state of chemists' assistants who are disinclined to unite or join any association for their mutual benefit? I find a good smoking-concert the best means of drawing them together, and would suggest that on next Bank Holiday some of the Associations (London and provincial) should combine and take the Albert Hall, and give a first-class smoker, with or without refreshments (the former preferable). Perhaps a pharmaceutical Councillor or some of those aspiring for the honour of sitting on the Council might be induced to speak during the interval.

Cor. (41/31.)

The Saccharin Case.

SIR,—With reference to this litigation will you kindly allow me on behalf of my clients, the Anglo-Continental Chemical-works (Limited), to make one or two corrections in the report in your paper of April 7! My clients have not admitted that the saccharin imported into this country was manufactured at the Basle Chemical-works from toluene and chlorosulphonic acid. On the contrary they imported saccharin made by a process which does not use those chemicals. It was imported from the Basle Chemical-works (Limited), and not from their predecessors in business, the Basle Chemical-works, Bindschadler, who are described in your report as the Basle Chemical-works. By an unfortunate misunderstanding the learned Judge has taken the admission to relate to them. Dr. Zimmermann did not give evidence in the case. Dr. Bischoff gave evidence as to the process of the predecessors of the Basle Chemical-works, (Limited), which was a variation from Monet's specification, and was used only up to the spring of 1898. He gave at the same time evidence that the process of the present firm has always been different from that of the patentee and the Corporation's own witness proved that not even the chemicals mentioned in the patent are employed. Mr. Neville, Q.C., did not make any comparison between the

process of Monct and that of the Basle Chemical-works (Limited), for the reason that there is no similarity whatever between these two processes. He compared only the variations between Messrs. Grandjean's process and that of the patent. The Corporation failed to prove that the saccharin sold by my clients for the last eighteen months under the name of "Tigress Brand," and imported from the Basle Chemical-works (Limited), infringes their patents, and I trust to your sense of fairness to allow publicity to this statement on behalf of my clients. No injunction can stop my clients from selling what is not an infringement, and as regards the injunction itself I have already given notice of appeal.

Yours obediently,

62 Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C., JOSEPH W. ASPREY.
April 9.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

30/17. *Yank*.—Stick Breast-salve:—

Emp. plumbi...	...	...	...	3iv.
Emp. picis...	...	...	...	3iv.
Emp. resinæ...	...	...	...	3iv.
Adipis...	...	...	...	3iv.

Melt together at a low temperature, and pour into cold water. As the mass cools knead it and form into sticks.

30/60. *Verax*.—The Sleeplessness-powder is 9 gr. of trional.

23/28. *Confidence*.—The opinion you hold of your wholesale house is unjust, as the powder you send is not antifebrin.

30/12. *Sodium*.—There is no preparation which will prevent the hair falling off tanned skins.

29/1. *G. W. W.*.—You should try plain caffeine in the acetanilide and antipyrin powders, but they would be better without the antipyrin.

33/73. *Puzzled*.—Liq. ethyl nitritis is in the B.P., 1898. The formula for *Liq. Ammonia Aromaticus* is:—

Ammon. carb.	...	...	...	3j.
Liq. ammon. fort.	...	...	...	5ij.
Ol. limonis	...	...	...	5ij.
Ol. myristicæ	...	...	...	5ij.
Glycerini	...	...	...	3v.
Aq. dest.	...	...	...	Oiss.

Shake the oils with the hot water in a closed vessel, and when cold filter and add the glycerin, dissolve the ammonium carbonate in the mixture, and, lastly, add the solution of ammonia and a sufficiency of water to make the product measure 2 pints.

33/64. *W. B.*.—You overlook the fact that the nourishing properties of Bovril do not depend on the meat-meal; the latter is added as an auxiliary to the extracts of meat which form the bulk of the preparation.

Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

- 47/61. Who supplies monazite?
52/43. Makers of "Foso" soap.
49/28. Makers of the "Furley Stretchers."
49 50. Earthenware sprinklers for vinegar-bottles: who makes?
47/34. Ivy tea and Chamberlain's cough-specific: where obtainable?
39/37. Address of firms letting out on hire models of gasworks and chemical-works.
44/49. What is Henrick's, or Kenrick's, powder? It is given to trail-hounds to prevent thirst.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: April 11.

OWING to the Easter Holidays we are compelled to close the report a day earlier than usual. The principal change, however, has been in quinine, which was reduced 2*d.* per oz. on Saturday last by the manufacturers. The reduction was, of course, sudden and quite unexpected, and was apparently intended to give a shock to the speculative market, which it did, as second-hand holders were off their guard, so to speak, and prices immediately dropped about 1½*d.* on the day:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Cinchona Damiana	Arsenic Camphor Opium	Copper sulphate Oil, cod-liver	Oil, winter- green Quinine

Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from April 5 to 9 (both inclusive):—Aloes (kegs), 404; (cases), 6; "balsams," 25; benzoin, 25; camabis indica, 451; cardamoms, 224; cascara sagrada, 937; cinchona (Ceylon), 348, (E.I.) 450; coca-leaves (Ceylon), 10; cochineal, 14; dragon's-blood, 9; eucalyptus oil (Aust.), 143; fenugreek-seed, 542; guinea grains, 739; gum olibanum, 618; gum sandarac, 16; honey, 47; insect-powder, 75; lime-juice (W.I.), 135; nux vomica, 528; orris root, 49; musk (Ceylon), 1; opium, 52; otto of rose, 1; quicksilver, 14; rose oil, 9; senna (Tiny), 240; saffron, 2; sarsaparilla, 15; tartaric acid, 2; turmeric, 788; wax (Japanese), 100; vanilla, 16.

Heavy Chemicals.

[These prices are for market-centres other than London.]

Business in the heavy-chemical market, although fair, is now rather on the dull side, and is likely to continue so until after the holidays. The general tone, however, may still be considered as being very satisfactory, and prices for the most part are steadily maintained at late rates. The Board of Trade Returns for March show that the export-business in alkali and bleaching-materials has been very much heavier during the first three months of this year as compared with both last year and 1898.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—Products under this heading keep practically unaltered from late reports. Caustic-soda and bleaching-powder are still in steady request; the latter product, however, has easier tendency.

BORAX AND BORACIC ACID are steady at late advance. Borax crystals, 17*s.*; powdered, 18*s.* per cwt. Boracic acid, 26*s.* and 28*s.* per cwt. respectively.

GREEN COPPERAS, in brisk request at unchanged rates. Best Lancashire makes, 42*s.* to 43*s.* per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool. Welsh remains at about 13*s.* to 14*s.* per ton in bulk free on rails.

BROWN ACETATE OF LIME continues to maintain a firm tone, at 6*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 6*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton.

COLOURS.—In this branch a steady business continues to pass at practically unchanged rates. Mineral black, best qualities, 4*s.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*, and ordinary 3*s.* to 3*s.* 3*d.* Pure ivory black, 15*s.* 9*d.* to 16*s.* per cwt. Yellows, 9*s.* to 16*s.* per cwt., according to quality. Pulp yellows, 30*s.* to 36*s.* per cwt. Pure chrome, 50*s.* per cwt. Pulp blues, 18*s.* to 42*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., according to strength and pulp. Greens, 36*s.* per cwt. Green, free from arsenic, 35*s.* 6*d.* to 36*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. Ochres, 50*s.* per ton up, according to strength and shade. French J.F., 6*l.* 5*s.* to 6*l.* 10*s.*; French J.C., 60*s.* to 65*s.* Umbers, from 40*s.* to 60*s.* per ton. Turkish raw, 7*l.* 10*s.* per ton. Oxides of iron: finest, 20*l.* per ton; medium, 10*l.*; and common, 7*l.*

COAL-TAR PRODUCTS are a quiet market at present. Carbolic acids dull and lower: crude, 60-per-cent., 2s. 5d. to 2s. 6d. per gal., and 75-per-cent. 2s. 9d. Crystals, 34° to 35° C., 9½d. to 10d., and 39° to 40° C., 10d. to 10½d. Benzols are flat, and also lower: 90-per-cent., 7d., and 50-per-cent., 8½d. Anthracene steady: A grade, 3½d. to 4d.; B grade, 2½d. to 3d. Tolnol, 1s., and pure, 1s. 10d. to 1s. 11d. Pyridin, 4s. 7½d. to 4s. 8½d. Aniline oil and salts remain unchanged, the former at 4½d. to 4½d. per lb., and the latter at 4½d. per lb. Creosote steady, and in fair request at 3½d. Naphthalen, crude 30-per-cent., 5d. Solvent naphthalen, 90-per-cent., 1s. 3d., and 95-per-cent., 1s. 4d. Solvent wood colourless, 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10d., and miscible 3s. 6d. to 3s. 7d. Pitch, very firm at 37s., f.o.b. East Coast.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA dull: Beekton, 11l. 15s.; Beekton terms, 11l. 12s. 6d.; Hull, Leith, and London all stand at about 11l. 15s. Exports from Leith last week amounted to 463 tons.

SULPHATE OF COPPER has easier tendency at 24l. 5s.; Liverpool, 26l.

Liverpool Drug Market.

Liverpool, April 10.

CANARY-SEED.—10 tons are reported in one line at 34s. 6d. per quarter, and a further large line is now being negotiated at the same price, but holders say that 35s. must be paid.

BALSAM CAPIVI.—At auction this week two lots of 6 and 4 barrels respectively were offered. The holders' ideas were 1s. 5½d. per lb., but both parcels ultimately changed hands at a trifle under this figure. This clears the market of all lots offering.

QUASSIA-LOGS.—Further sales are recorded at 3l. 15s. per ton from the quay.

TURMERIC.—203 bags offered at auction, and 50 bags were sold at 30s., the balance being held at the same price.

WAX, CARNAUBA, continues very firm at 77s. 6d. to 90s. per cwt., the latter price being asked for choice yellow.

AFRICAN GINGER.—9 barrels of new crop were offered at auction; 30s. was asked, but importers showed willingness to shade this price somewhat. JAMAICA.—8 barrels just landed were offered at auction and found a buyer at 57s. 6d. per cwt.

QUILLAIM-BARK.—Further sales are reported at 13l. 7s. 6d. per ton.

BEEFWAX continues to find ready buyers, and the values range from 7l. 5s. to 7l. 15s. per cwt. for good grades of Peruvian, Chilian, and Californian.

TURPS has continued its upward movement, and for the remaining stocks 43s. 3d. is being asked.

CASTOR OIL.—At the beginning of the week the market sagged slightly, and about 100 cases good seconds Calcutta changed hands at prices which slightly shaded the ruling quotation, but the value has come back to 3½d. to 3¾d., and a firmer tendency is exhibited all round for good seconds Calcutta. First-pressure French continues to be procurable at 3½d. to 3¾d.; Belgian first pressure fetches the same price; 3½d. is asked for second Belgian; and 3d. for yellow French.

SULPHATE OF Copper continues steady at 26l. per ton, although some second-hand holders are cutting in at a shade less.

GUM ACACIA.—The market for the week has been practically featureless, as the holders of small stocks here continue to exhibit the same determination to hold to their parcels, and values range from 67s. 6d. to 75s. per cwt.

POTASHES are steady at 27s. 6d. to 27s. 9d. per cwt., and Pearl-ashes 33s. 6d. to 35s. per cwt.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—About 28 tons are coming up for auction this week, and buyers' views are 23s. 6d. to 25s. per cwt.

HONEY—Chilian continues to command good prices, and small parcels of Pile 1 have been sold during the week at 25s. 6d. per cwt.

COD-LIVER OIL.—Newfoundland: stocks on the spot have been much reduced in compass during the past week, and holders are now asking 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per gallon, according to quality.

German Drug Market.

Hamburg, April 9.

Business is not very brisk just now, and trade on the drug-market is limited.

AGAR AGAR is firm at 370m. per 100 kilos.

ALGES (CAPE) is firmer at 67m. to 68m. per 100 kilos.

BALSAM, PERU.—Quiet, at 12½m. per kilo.

CAMPOR, REFINED.—Firm, to day's quotation being 455m. per 100 kilos.

CASCARA SAGRADA is steady at 55m. per 100 kilos.

COCA-LEAVES are firm at 310m. per 100 kilos.

COCAINE is firmer at 550m. per 100 kilos.

CEVADILLA-SEED is firmer at 75m. to 80m. per 100 kilos.

CUMIN-SEED is firm at 60m. to 61m. per 100 kilos.

ERGOT OF RYE is quiet and without business, prices nominally 400m. to 390m. per 100 kilos.

GENTIAN-ROOT is dull, at 30m. per 100 kilos.

HONEY is firm, Chilian being 45m. to 60m. per 100 kilos.

IPECACUANHA.—Rio is quoted 28m., and Cartagena, 17m. per kilo.

LYCOPODIUM.—Very firm at 485m. per 100 kilos.

QUININE has been reduced 4m. per kilo. The demand is small; to-day's quotation is 44m. per kilo.

SERMACETI is very firm at 305m. per 100 kilos.

SPIRIT OF TURPENTINE.—Firm; spot scarce at 85m.; September-December, at 69½m. per 100 kilos.

WAX (JAPAN), is unchanged at 61m. to 61½m. per 100 kilos.

WORMSEED is firm at 60m. per 100 kilos.

OILS.—The oil market is very firm, especially linseed oil; rape oil and cotton oil show strong advances. Castor oil, however, is quieter, first-pressing, in barrels, spot, 61m.; forward, 60m. per 100 kilos. Cod-liver oil is very firm, and dearer at 95m. per barrel. Essential oils—Anise oil (Russian) quotes 13m. per kilo. Star-anise oil steady, at 13½m. to 13¾m. per kilo. Clove oil firm at 5½m. per kilo. Clove-stem oil firm at 5½m. per kilo. Peppermint oil is firmer, HGH at 510m. per lb.; Japanese oil is firmer, at 8m. per kilo.

American Drug Market.

New York, March 28.

Business is quiet, and confined almost entirely to jobbing quantities. The course of values has been somewhat irregular, and the break in the quinine-market has demoralised business in this staple.

ALGOS (CURACAO) are quiet, and selling at 4½c. to 5c. per lb.

ASAETIDA is in light supply, especially the finer grades. The demand is good, and holders offer sparingly at 18c. to 26c. per lb., according to quality.

BEEFWAX is again stronger, under the influence of a good demand. Holders quote 29c. for ordinary pure.

BUCHU-LEAVES.—New arrivals have weakened the market, and quotations for "short" have declined to 22c. "Long" are firm at 24c.

CAMPOR is very firm, and an advance is daily expected. Domestic refiners offers only in limited quantities at 54c. in quantity.

CARBOLIC ACID has declined to 22c. in bulk.

CINCHONIDINE is easier, in sympathy with quinine-market, and 31c. per oz. will buy.

COCAINE.—N.Y.Q. brand has been reduced to \$1.50, but other makers have not met the decline, and offer at \$4.75 in quantity.

COD-LIVER OIL is stronger, in view of improved demand and advices regarding the new catch. Prices for barrel lots have been generally advanced \$2, and holders now quote \$24 to \$26, according to brand.

ERGOT.—Lack of demand, and the weak condition of primary markets has caused a decline to 51c. for Russian.

GOLDEN SEAL (HYDRASTIS) is offering freely from growing centres, and quotations are weak at 5½c. to 56c.

IPECAC. (RIO) has declined to \$2.80. A recent arrival of Carthagenia has been rejected by the appraisers as not up to standard.

JALAP is quiet, and selling at 11c. to 12c.

OPUM is in light demand, but the feeling is firmer, and quotations are well maintained at \$3.15 to \$3.20.

QUININE is in an unsettled position. Domestic manufacturers have again reduced quotations by 2c., and offer at 31c. Foreign makers have not yet met this figure, and, pending further settlement of the market, business is extremely limited.

SARSAPARILLA (MEXICAN) is steady at 8c. to 9c. per lb. Supplies are more concentrated.

SENZGA is weak, and quotations are only nominally steady at 43c. to 45c. for Western root.

SENNA-LEAVES are in light demand, and quotations are unchanged. Alexandrian (natural) are quoted 10c. to 12c.; and Tinnevely 7½c. to 16c., according to quality.

SERPENTARIA is scarce, and holders have advanced quotations. Only limited quantities are available at 37c. to 40c.

Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, April 11, 11.51 A.M.:—Refined camphor remains quiet at 450m. per 100 kilos. Lycopodium is firm at 490m. per 100 kilos. Ergot is quiet, but turpentine is slowly advancing.

* * * *

NEW YORK, April 11, 3.16 P.M.:—The market is in a fairly satisfactory condition. Domestic quinine is strong at 31c. per oz. Opium is steady at \$3.25 per lb. Refined camphor is higher, 57c. per lb. being the latest price. Hydrastis canadensis is firmer at 54c. per lb., but jalap is easier at 10½c. per lb. Pareira-root is scarce, and 12c. per lb. is now being obtained, while buchu-leaves are firm at 20c. per lb.

London Markets.

ARSENIC.—Firm at 21s. to 21s. 6d. per cwt. for best white English powder, the inside figure being for ton quantities.

BALSAM CANADA is expected to be dearer before the new crop, due in August, arrives. On the spot the article is scarce at 1s. 5d. per lb. in 3 cwt. casks.

BALSAM TOLU.—There seems to be very little here—only a few cases. The price asked is 1s. 6d. for small tins.

CAMPHOR.—Refined camphor is exceedingly firm and an advance by the English makers is expected, as the present prices are considered to be unremunerative in comparison with the cost of the Formosa, which is now distinctly firmer at 181s. c.i.f.

CANNABIS INDICA.—It is stated that a prohibitive export duty has been put upon this article, with the result that at the present moment it is impossible to find out what practically the one holder will sell at. We are therefore unable to give any quotation, and we are not disposed to accept the statement regarding the duty. Stocks here are fairly large, as shipments have been freely arriving of late.

CANTHARIDES.—Russian is quoted 1s. 8d. per lb. c.i.f. net.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Slow of sale, with cheaper offers, at 27s. 6d. per cwt. spot; 937 packages have arrived from Hamburg this week.

CINCHONA.—The sales on Tuesday were larger than usual, and quinine-yielding barks sold well and with brisk competition at an average of 1½d. per unit, which is slightly better than at the last Amsterdam sales. Cinchonidine-yielding barks sold at 2½d. per unit. The quantities of bark offered and sold were as follows:—

Packages offered.				
East Indian cinchona ...	2,137,	of which about 1,850 were sold.		
South American cin-				
chona ...	450	" "	217	"
Ceylon cinchona ...	249	" "	249	"
Java cinchona ...	226	" "	11	"
Jamaica cinchona ...	3	" "	3	"
	3,065		2,330	

The following are the approximate quantities of bark purchased by the principal buyers:—

	Lbs.
Brunswick factory ...	181,343
Mannheim and Amsterdam factories ...	166,338
American and Italian factories ...	94,144
Imperial quinine-factory ...	23,295
Frankfort-on-Maine and Stuttgart factories ...	20,870
Messrs. Howards & Sons ...	20,506
Druggists, &c. ...	11,949
Total quantity sold publicly ...	518,445
Bought in or withdrawn ...	153,151
Total quantity offered ...	671,596

The following are some of the prices per lb. realised:—

CEYLON.—Succirubra, stem chips and shavings, ordinary to good, 2½d. to 4½d.; good root, 6½d.

EAST INDIAN.—Red stem chips and shavings, fair to good, 3½d. to 5½d.; ordinary to good root, 2½d. to 5½d.; fair branch, 3½d. to 5½d.; renewed chips and shavings, fair to good rich, 4d. to 7½d. Officialis, fair to good, 4½d. to 6½d.; low to fair, 1½d. to 4½d.; branch, 1½d.; fair silvery quill, 5d. to 5½d.; renewed chips and shavings, good to fine rich, 6½d. to 7½d.; fair to good, 4½d. to 5½d. Ledgeriana stem chips and shavings, good to fine, 5½d. to 9d.; fair, 4½d. to 4½d.; branch, 3d. to 5d.; fine root, 8½d.; hybrid stem chips, good, 5½d. to 5½d.; fair branch, 3½d.

JAVA.—Ordinary hybrid quill, 4½d.

SOUTH AMERICAN.—Calisaya, fair to good quill, 8½d. to 10½d.; fair to good flat, 6½d. to 10½d. Soft Columbian chips and shavings, 2½d. to 2½d. Cuprea stem chips, 2d.

JAMAICA.—Hybrid bark in broken quills (druggists'), 4½d.

The shipments from Ceylon for the week ending March 19 were 15,610 lbs. From January 1 to March 19 they have been 113,981 lbs.

COPPER SULPHATE is easier to-day at 24½ 10s.

DAMIANA-LEAVES have been advanced to 6d. per lb. spot.

GUINEA GRAINS.—The *Trevelyan* from Buenos Ayres has brought 739 bags.

INSECT FLOWERS.—The Trieste market is quiet, but steady. Closed flowers are getting very scarce, but for open qualities there is no demand. The following are current quotations f.o.b. Trieste:—Wild, 102s. to 106s. per cwt., closed 84s. to 92s., half open 51s. to 74s., and open 46s. to 46s. 9d. The stock in Trieste at the end of March stood at 201,100 kilos, against 220,600 kilos. in February. The receipts for March were 30,700 kilos, and the deliveries 50,200 kilos.

IODINE.—The position is entirely unchanged, and although there is some indication that a convention will again be formed it is quite expected that the rates will be lower.

IPECACUANHA.—Business has again been done in Rio root at 11s. 6d. per lb. There is some speculation in regard to the arrivals at Hamburg, but we understand that the quotation for it is on a parity with the London one.

MANNA.—New crop is quoted 2s. 9d. per lb. net f.o.b. Palermo, in original boxes; broken 11½d. and "sorts," 9½d.

MORPHINE remains firm, but quiet, at 5s. per oz. for powder from makers. There is a little offering in second hands at 4s. 10d.

OIL, CASTOR.—Best Italian medicinal is quoted 37s. per cwt., c.i.f., and water-white 36s. Belgian firsts, 32s.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—This oil appears to be toppling towards a fall. To-day's advices from Bergen are to the effect that the catch of cod has much improved since last week, and in consequence manufacturers are inclined to part with medicinal refined at much easier rates, and prices from 82s. 6d. per barrel f.o.b. Bergen upwards will buy; some agents still quote the nominal figure of 95s., but the absence of business makes this unimportant.

BERGEN, April 7.—My telegram of Thursday last practically covers everything there is to be said about the fisheries. Lofoten is about finishing—a total failure. Finmarken is beginning in a small way, but as yet nothing can be predicted about results. The cod-liver oil market is firm, at 90s. per barrel, f.o.b., for non-congealing oil. The exports to date are 1,841 barrels, against 2,639 barrels last year.

OIL, GERANIUM.—Finest French is quoted 25s. per lb. Algerian is 16s. 6d.

OIL, WINTERGREEN, has been reduced to 7s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f., for tins in cases.

OPIUM.—The market for the various kinds of opium has been good, druggists', manufacturing, and other descriptions of the drug being generally asked for. Good business has been done at slightly advanced prices with further inquiries. Stocks of soft shipping opium of the finer quality are nearly depleted, fair business having been done at full values. In Persian opium considerable business has also been done at full and slightly advanced prices, and stocks are now low. The prices are as follows:—Fine druggists', 9s. 3d. to 9s. 6d. per lb.; soft shipping, 11s. to 11s. 9d.; and Persian opium, 12s. 9d. to 13s. 6d. per lb.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 6.—Opium has been fairly active during the last two weeks, and stocks are now lowest on record. The fortnight's sales are composed of 35 cases "druggists'," at 8s. 5d. to 8s. 8d. per lb., f.o.b., and 30 cases "soft," at 8s. 8d. to 9s. 6d., f.o.b., according to quality. There are still buyers for "druggists'" at above prices, but sellers are very reserved, and, seeing that the total stock of "druggists'" here is below 100 cases, they have every reason to be. Besides, above there exist about 30 cases Malatias and 90 cases other "soft" grades. Weather keeps very propitious for the plants, and for the time being no one dare raise a dissentient voice. At the same time, it must not be forgotten that drought during May has accounted for more short crops than any other of the numerous risks the poppy-plants are subject to.

ORRIS.—The following quotations are to hand from Leghorn this week:—Extra-picked Florentine, 47s. per cwt., c.i.f.; prime sorts, 44s.; and small white, for grinding, 43s. 9d.

QUININE.—The makers on Saturday last reduced their prices by 2d. per oz., and Howards' sulphate is now quoted at 1s. 7d. per oz. in 100-oz. tins, with the usual reduction for larger quantities. Other makers are quoting at proportionate rates. In consequence business is naturally of a limited character, 1s. 3d. per oz. being paid for German in the

usual contract lots. The position is unsettled and abnormal, as well as inconsistent with the rise in bark at yesterday's sales.

According to reports from Java, the quinine-auction to be held at Batavia on April 25 will consist of 2,494·80 kilos. (English packing), equal to 88,000 oz., in cases, each of 400 oz.; and 760 kilos., packing at buyers' option. Quality is according to Ed. II. of Dutch Pharmacopœia, or B.P. Also 240 kilos., according to Ed. III. of Dutch Pharmacopœia, will be offered.

SAFFRON.—Genuine Valencia, of new crop, is quoted 36s. per lb. net; and Alicante at 22s.

SENEGA.—The spot supplies now appear to be exhausted, several parcels having changed hands at 2s. per lb. The lowest quotation is now 2s., c.i.f.

SPERMACELE.—American refined is slightly dearer at 1s. 4d. per lb., spot. New York quotations are reported to be above the parity of local quotations.

SPICES.—The auctions on Wednesday were small, and there was little change in values except that Jamaica ginger was in better demand. A few lots of Cochin *Ginger* were offered, but there were no buyers at the prices asked. Jamaica sold well at steady to rather dearer rates. Japan was bought in at 26s. per cwt. for ordinary rough limed. Zanzibar *Cloves* are firm at 4½d. per lb. on the spot, and buyers of June-August delivery at 4½d. Fair picked Penang were bought in at 7½d. per lb. *Clove-stems* were withdrawn at 1½d. *Pimento* slow; a few lots of common to good sold at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb. Good yellow Coconada *Capsicums*, off stalk, were bought in at 32s. per cwt.; long red East India, on stalk, sold at 30s. 6d. per cwt. *Cinnamon-chips* were bought in at 3½d. per lb. for good quality; fair quillings sold at 7½d. per lb. *Pepper* has been very quiet, but quotations are maintained. Good estate Tellicherry black sold at 6½d. per lb., and fair Ceylon at 6d. per lb.

TONKA BEANS.—We understand that the fine Angostura beans offered at the last drug-auctions have been cleared at about 3s. per lb., and the market is somewhat bare of fair quality.

Ceylon Trade in 1899.

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce have issued their annual compilation of the exports of Ceylon produce from Colombo and Galle during 1899, and we give below the figures relating to the exports of cinchona, cardamoms, citronella oil, and cinnamon oil:—

—	Cinchona	Cardamoms	Citronella Oil	Cinnamon Oil
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	oz.
1899 ...	618,921	499,959	1,478,758	118,778
1898 ...	975,784	531,473	1,365,917	183,312
1897 ...	653,346	532,830	1,182,867	181,536
1896 ...	1,309,560	452,595	1,132,141	132,057
1895 ...	921,085	374,635	1,182,255	78,587
1894 ...	2,497,618	306,317	938,471	88,150
1893 ...	3,571,325	428,210	668,530	140,334
1892 ...	6,793,320	372,510	844,502	106,303
1891 ...	5,879,339	422,109	703,974	122,835
1890 ...	8,728,836	387,940	909,942	108,787

Cardamoms.—The exports are slightly under those of 1898, but we understand that there is an extension of cultivation going on; the result of this, however, will not be felt for some years to come. The Indian demand fell off during the latter part of the year, and prices have declined to about 1.80r. for first and second qualities. The cultivation of cardamoms is in the hands of a favoured few, and is known as a "pocket cultivation." The principal importers were: Great Britain, 363,232 lbs.; Germany, 58,133 lbs.; and India, 54,848 lbs.

Cinchona continues to fall off in quantity, about 30 per cent. less having been exported in 1899 than in the previous year. The figures are the lowest for the past ten years, and, according to recent accounts, the planters are devoting more attention to tea and coffee in lieu of cinchona. Of the exports, Great Britain received 486,704 lbs. against 712,468 lbs. in 1898. There is no cinchona to speak of in the island.

Cinnamon.—There has been a good export, both of quills and chips, and good prices have prevailed throughout the year. A

novel feature in connection with this spice is the large export of "wild" description, as much as 195,008 lbs. having been exported, chiefly to London; but the value has fallen so low that the collection of spurious sorts is not likely to be encouraged.

Cocunut Oil shows a decline of about 35,000 cwt. compared with the previous year, the demand for India and Singapore having been much curtailed. On the other hand, the export to London and the United States has gone on briskly. The aggregate for the year is a little over 20,000 tons.

Citronella Oil.—The shipments show an increase of 112,839 lbs., which is satisfactory. The United Kingdom and the United States were the principal consumers, each taking 766,594 lbs. and 667,332 lbs. respectively.

Cinnamon Oil, on the other hand, shows a decrease of 64,534 lbs. Germany was the largest purchaser of this article, taking 87,080 oz., against 24,318 oz. for Great Britain. This, of course, includes bark and leaf oil.

Generally speaking, 1899 was a prosperous year for the export trade, a steady exchange helping operators, and this in itself has contributed to promote business in the minimising of risk, which had for a long time previously hampered mercantile transactions.

Manufacture of Crude Quinine.

The *Batavia Nbl.* learns from a well-informed quarter that two of the principal Java cinchona-planters propose to set up on their grounds factories for the production of crude sulphate of quinine, which will subsequently be refined at the Bandong works. It is expected that this will result in an increased profit—quite 25 per cent.—over that obtained from the sale of the bark in Amsterdam. The most important point, however, appears to be that it would have the effect of withdrawing something like 10 or 12 tons of quinine from the European market, and that other planters will probably, in their own interest, follow the example, and in course of time erect similar works. Another advantage in connection with the proposed works is that inferior bark with 1½ or 2 per cent. of quinine-content, which is now either sold at a loss or simply thrown away, can then also be worked at a profit. It is stated that such an installation is not only inexpensive (costing not more than about 500l. to 800l. for a plant capable of dealing with 5 to 10 cwt. of bark per day, but, moreover, the work is very simple and requires no great skill or experience. These details are based upon data obtained from similar works which have already been in operation for three years, and in which bark is used of such low quality that it would not pay the expense of shipment to Europe.

Texas Quicksilver.

Developments in the Texas quicksilver belt are extensive, and new finds are being reported every few days. Excitement is at fever heat, and prospectors and speculators are going into the district in considerable numbers. The first discoveries are well under way, and their owners are taking out large quantities of ore which, for richness, is claimed to have never been surpassed.—*O., P., & D. Reporter*.

Roumanian Rape-seed Crop.

According to official reports lately received by the Roumanian Ministry of Agriculture, the rape-seed plants have been more or less damaged by frost. Quotations in Braila are rising almost daily, owing to a steady demand from France, Belgium, and Germany, where the price of rape-seed oil has considerably advanced of late in consequence of unfavourable reports transmitted to the Western markets by some speculators of Bucharest concerning the condition of the crop.

Coming Events.

Wednesday, April 18.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (North British Branch), 36 York Place, Edinburgh. Evening meeting. 1. Dispensing-notes: "Solution of Arsenic and Iron Wine," and "Glycerin of Codeine." By Mr. A. Currie. Dispensing-query: "Copper in a Mixture." By Mr. J. R. Hill.

Royal Microscopical Society, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 8 P.M. "Demonstration of the Structure of Some Palæozoic Plants," by Mr. W. Carruthers, F.R.S.

Thursday, April 19.

Optical Society, 7 Crane Court, E.C., at 8 P.M. Debate on Mr. Laurence's paper on "Standards."